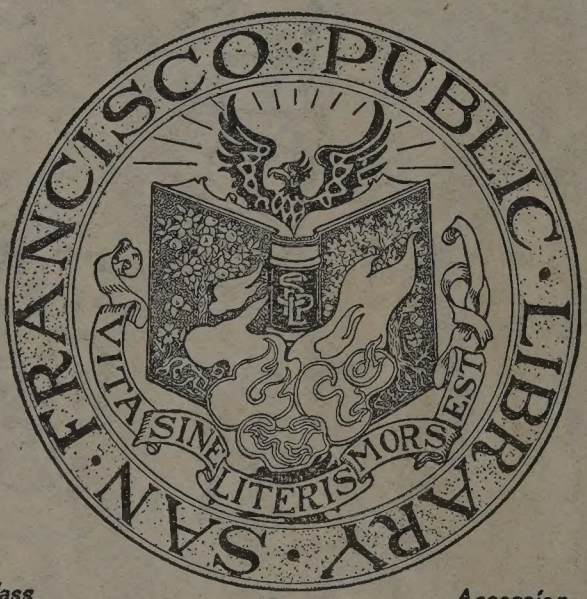

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THIS volume is the second of the two volumes of the "Kemble Papers," and the seventeenth of the series of "Collections" of the Society for the year 1884. *It consists of three parts, and the index to both volumes:*

I. The Journals of Colonel Stephen Kemble, Brigadier-General in command of the British Expedition for the capture of Nicaragua and the Spanish Main, in the years 1780 *and* 1781.

II. The Order Book of Brigadier-General Kemble.

III. The Documents, Correspondence, and Official Reports, relating to the Expedition from its inception in 1779 *till its termination in* 1781, *and the topography, inhabitants, and nature, of Nicaragua and the Spanish Main or Mosquito Shore.*

The Governor of Jamaica, General John Dalling, who in 1783 *was created Sir John Dalling, Baronet, originated the idea, and submitted to the British Government of Lord North his plan. This was for a military and naval expedition for the reduction of the Spanish Main, and the capture and occupation of the river and castle of St. Juan, and the Lake of Nicaragua, with the cities of Granada and Leon at its western end, and Realejo on the Pacific Ocean, including the narrow strip of land between the lake and the Pacific; thus cutting off the communication between the northern and southern Spanish American territories, and taking possession of the whole region, the only one through which the two oceans could be united by a canal, the*

feasibility of which, and its tremendous consequences, were then foreseen. The British Cabinet at once approved the plan, and ordered it carried into execution. The official history of the expedition, now printed for the first time in this volume, shows its partial success, and the causes, why, after the capture of the castle of St. Juan and reaching the lake, the victors subsequently blew up the castle, and finally abandoned the undertaking.

Now, when the attention of America and the world in general is fixed upon the actual commencement of the canal to unite the Atlantic and Pacific through the route of Nicaragua by North American enterprise, the publication of these official papers and documents of the North American officer in command of the British expedition to Nicaragua over a century ago, will be a boon, not only to historical scholars, but to all men interested in the development of Central America, and the continuance of the power and progress of the United States.

Colonel Kemble, after resigning as Deputy-Adjutant-General of the British Army in America in October, 1779, *in consequence of the refusal of Sir Henry Clinton to appoint him Adjutant-General on the resignation of that office by Lord Rawdon in the autumn of that year, as shown in the first volume (Collections for* 1883), *rejoined his regiment the 60th Foot, or Royal Americans, of which he was the Lieutenant-Colonel of its First Battalion, then in the Island of Jamaica. He sailed from New York, November 30th.,* 1779, *and arrived at Montego Bay, Jamaica, January 8th.,* 1780, *and on the 16th. reached Spanish Town, the residence of Governor-General Dalling. He found the expedition to the Spanish Main organizing under Captain John Polson of the 60th Regiment as its Colonel-in-Chief. He offered his services, and as his journal says, "would have been accepted but could not deprive Captain Polson of the command." Governor Dalling had previously intrusted the military command of the*

expedition to Captain Polson, and its naval direction to Captain Nelson, of the Hinchinbroke, a frigate of twenty-eight guns, afterwards the celebrated Lord Nelson of the Nile. He was then in his twenty-second year, and this was the first ship he commanded as a post-captain. His duties were simply to carry a part of the troops in his own ship, and to convoy the transports Julia and Penelope with the rest. The expedition sailed from Jamaica, March 4th., 1780, *reached the Harbour of St. Juan on the 24th., landed without opposition, and began the ascent of the river. Nelson volunteered to accompany Colonel Polson with the boats and a body of sailors under his personal command. They reached the castle of St. Juan, sixty-four miles up the river and thirty-two from the lake, on the 11th. of April, invested it, and on the 29th. it surrendered to Polson. Nelson, becoming dangerously ill from fever and dysentery, had to be sent back down the river a few days before its fall. He arrived at the Harbour of St. Juan so weak that he had to be carried on board the vessel which took him to Jamaica, having in his absence been appointed to the command of the Janus, a forty-four gun frigate, an appointment which really saved his life. But he was so reduced he could not retain his ship, and had to ask leave to return to England, where it was a year before he regained his health. Kemble's Journal mentions Nelson's arrival at the Harbour of St. Juan, and sailing afterward for Jamaica, by whom he sent letters to Governor-General Dalling, but gives no details of his condition.*

Colonel Polson in announcing the fall of the castle to Governor Dalling on April 30th., 1780, *speaks in these high terms of Nelson and Lieutenant Despard the chief engineer: "Captain Nelson, then of the Hinchinbroke, came up with thirty-four seamen, one serjeant, and twelve marines. I want words to express the obligations I owe that gentleman; he was the first on every service, whether by day or by night. There was scarcely a gun fired but was pointed by him or*

Lieutenant Despard, chief engineer, who has exerted himself on every occasion."

Governor Dalling on April 2d., 1780, *decided to send Colonel Kemble with a reinforcement of two hundred and fifty regulars, and two hundred and seventy of a new corps called the Legion, chiefly composed of sailors, and to take the chief command. He arrived at the Harbour of St. Juan, April 20th.,* 1780, *and by Governor Dalling's orders assumed the command as Brigadier-General. The general orders of Polson's expedition precede those of Kemble in the second part of this volume. The terrible sufferings and terrific mortality, which, with the desertion of the native allies, in the end compelled the destruction of the fort and abandonment of the expedition after nearly five months of most heroic service in that most fatal climate, are plainly and fully set forth in the letters and dispatches in the third part of this volume.*

Most strange and striking is the extraordinary contrast of the subsequent careers, deaths, and burials, of the two officers so highly spoken of by their commander in Nicaragua.

The one, after a life of unexampled brilliancy and success in the service of his country, fell at Trafalgar in the very moment of his greatest victory, the idol of the British Navy and the British people; and later, with all the pomp and splendor of military mourning that a grateful people and a grateful monarch could show to his remains, was borne through London's draped streets, amid sorrowing hundreds of thousands, to the great cathedral of St. Paul, and laid to rest beneath its magnificent dome, the greatest of England's naval heroes.

The other, after thirty years' faithful service as a brave and skilful officer, under stress of unredressed private and personal wrongs at the hands of government officials, headed in London, in 1802, *a rash conspiracy to seize the Tower, the Houses of Parliament, murder the king, raise an insurrection, and overturn*

the government. He was tried for high treason before a special commission presided over by Lord Ellenborough, Lord Chief-Justice of England, found guilty, and, with six of his companions, hung for the crime, on the 19th. of February, 1803. Eleven days later, in the presence of four friends, his remains were permanently interred in the cemetery of the old parish of St. Faith, on the south side of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Lord Nelson appeared as a witness at Colonel Despard's trial, and testified, "that they were on the Spanish Main together in 1780, together in the trenches, and had slept in the same tent; that he was a loyal man and a brave officer." Referring to this testimony Lord Ellenborough told the jury, in his charge, "You have also heard the high character given him by a man on whom to pronounce an eulogy were to waste words; but you are to consider whether a change has not taken place since the period he speaks of." The proof of the crime was clear, the punishment lawful, and Despard met his fate with cool firmness. Two years and a half later Nelson was killed in battle. Both the gallant companions in Nicaragua, in 1780, slept their last sleep near each other on the banks of the Thames, the one under a splendid monument in St. Paul's, the other in an unmarked grave under the very shadow of the same Cathedral.

Colonel Edward Marcus Despard, an Irish gentleman of reputable family and connections, seems to have belonged to a not uncommon class of Irishmen, who, when lawful government does not suit them, seem ever ready to conspire to overthrow it, and whose plots, as his was, are usually betrayed by one or more of the conspirators themselves.

To the late Mr. Peter Kemble, of New York, and his son, the present Mr. Peter Kemble, the thanks of the Society are due for placing at its disposal the original manuscripts printed in this volume. The maps are fac-simile copies of those in manuscript, made by officers of the expedition at the time, and preserved by Colonel Kemble.

In this connection a brief statement of Colonel Kemble's history, and that of his family, one of prominence in New York and New Jersey, both before, and after, the American Revolution, and of which no account in print exists, is of interest. In the year 1769 *Peter Kemble, of Mount Kemble, Morris County, New Jersey, the Colonel's father, wrote a short account of the family, "as far as it has come to his knowledge," to use his own words. In this he says, "that in the north part of Wiltshire, near the edge of the county, within a few miles of Tilbury, Malmesbury, and Circencester, very near the source of the Isis, is a village and church, or, as I have been told, a church only, called 'Kemble,' an ecclesiastical benefice in Malmesbury Deanery. . . . It is said that William Camden, Clarencieux King-at-Arms in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, did give George Kemble, of Wydell, or Widhill, in the county of Wilts, the coat-of-arms now used in the family. And we know there is the vicarage of Kemble not far from Widhill. The genealogist, from thence, concludes that the name of Kemble is derived from the town, but, I think, erroneously; for it is much more probable that the town or village must have been so named from the lord of the manor then in being. . . . as has been the case in many towns and villages. In Camden's time it must have been an old settled place and not then inconsiderable, for the benefice is valued in the King's Book (Domesday Book) at a high rate, £11.4.5 per annum." The arms above mentioned were thus blazoned, "He beareth sable, on a bend ermine, three leopards faces of the first;" Crest; "On a wreath of his colours a wolf's head, trunked and embrued, or."*

The late Honorable Gouverneur Kemble, of Coldspring, Putnam County, New York, the eldest nephew of Colonel Stephen Kemble, believed that William Kemble, of Stafford in the Vale, the third and youngest son of Francis Kemble, and grandson of George Kemble, of Wydell, or Widhill, above named, was the immediate ancestor of his branch of the family; but the matter

was not followed up by him, nor has it been ascertained by any other member of the American family. Mr. Peter Kemble, in the manuscript above referred to, says that his own grandfather was Richard Kemble, deputy alderman of Bishopsgate ward, London, a merchant, and resided in Bishopsgate Street many years; that his own father, also named Richard, son of the first-mentioned Richard, "was bound an apprentice to one Barnardiston, a Turkey merchant with a considerable sum of money, who was by indenture obliged to send him the two last years of his service to Smyrna, where he went, and afterwards settled." There he married a Greek lady, a native of the island of Scio, "blind old Homer's rocky isle," one of two sisters, the other of whom married Mr. Edwards, the British consul at Smyrna. Their maiden name was Mavrocordato, the same as that of the great patriot of the early days of modern Greece; but whether there was any connection, is not known. By this lady Mr. Richard Kemble had several children, one of whom, William, an elder brother of Peter Kemble, of New Jersey, born in 1696, *was in the English navy. Peter Kemble himself was born at Smyrna, in Asia Minor, December* 12*th.*, 1704, *and remained there till* 1712, *when he was sent to England to be educated. His father, who met with great losses in trade in consequence of the wars in Queen Anne's reign, came himself to England in* 1717, *at which time he sold the Crown Tavern in Cornhill, London, which he owned, and which then rented for* £100 *per annum. The next year,* 1718, *Richard Kemble "kissed hands" on being appointed by George I. consul at Salonica, on the western side of the Ægean Sea, and almost opposite to the Gulf of Smyrna, where he remained till his death in June,* 1720. *Two years before this event, his son Peter Kemble was sent to George Kemble, a wine merchant at Rotterdam, in Holland, and a distant relative, to be initiated in mercantile life. In the winter of* 1720–21, *he returned to England, and went on a trading voyage to Guinea, and*

came back to London, where he was engaged in business for some years. Mr. Edwards above named first introduced coffee into England. Having it made for his own use by a Greek servant whom he had brought from Smyrna, it became so popular among his friends that the demand was found a little oppressive. He therefore allowed a public coffee-house to be established, with this Greek, Pasqua Rossi by name, at its head, in St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, who put a sign over the door with his own portrait and the words "the first who made and publicly sold coffee drink in England." Mr. Edwards's family all died except a daughter, Ann, who subsequently came to America and dwelt with her relatives at Mount Kemble, where she lies buried; the inscription on her tombstone being: "Ann Edwards, born in Smyrna, in Asia Minor, and died in July, 1808, in the eightieth year of her age." She was highly educated, spoke Greek, Italian, French, and English, was a complete Greek, and retained her Eastern habits until her death.

In or about 1730 Peter Kemble came to New York. There he married Gertrude Bayard, second daughter of Samuel Bayard (only son of Nicholas Bayard, the youngest of the three sons of Governor Stuyvesant's widowed sister, Anna Bayard, who came with him to New York in 1647) and his wife Margaret van Cortlandt, eldest daughter of Stephanus van Cortlandt of the Manor of Cortlandt, the head of that family. Though by this marriage closely connected with New York and its leading families, Peter Kemble settled at New Brunswick, New Jersey, where he entered into a successful business, built a house, and resided for several years. He afterward purchased a large tract of land in the beautiful hilly region of New Jersey, near Morristown, and erected thereon a large house, still standing, which he called Mount Kemble, and in which he dwelt till his death on the 23d. of February, 1789, at the great age of eighty-five years. Peter Kemble was one of the most eminent men of colonial New Jersey, always

taking a large and prominent part in its political affairs. As early as 1745 *he was appointed by George II. one of the governor's council, his commission, under that king's sign manual, still in the possession of one of his descendants, bearing date the* 23*d. of September in that year. This office he held till the end of the British rule in* 1775, *and was the "President of the Council" whenever the governorship was vacant. He remained loyal to Great Britain during the Revolution, but was never molested, except in having some of the Continental troops cantoned upon his estate during the winter the American army lay in winter quarters at Morristown. General Washington, however, extended to him and his family every personal courtesy.*

By his first wife, Gertrude Bayard, Peter Kemble had five sons and two daughters.

I. Samuel, the eldest, who entered the British navy, but left it on being appointed Collector of the Port of New York. At the peace of 1783 *he went to London, established himself as a merchant, and there died, leaving issue by his wife who was Jane Finch.*

II. Richard, born in August, 1733, *and died at Mount Kemble, which had fallen to him, a bachelor, on the* 13*th. September,* 1813.

III. Peter, born in 1739. *After being educated at the "college in Philadelphia," now the University of Pennsylvania, he entered the counting-house of Archibald McCall, a leading merchant of that city, who had married his sister Judith, and afterward became his partner in business: which being principally with the West Indies, he resided several years at St. Kitts and St. Eustatia. Returning to New York after the peace of* 1783, *he there married Gertrude Gouverneur, of the Huguenot family of that name, a daughter of Samuel Gouverneur and his wife Experience Johnson. With her brothers Nicholas and Isaac, he established in that city the commercial house of "Gouverneur & Kemble," long and honorably known. He died July* 6*th.,* 1823, *at the age of eighty-four.*

IV. Stephen, Colonel and Brigadier-General, born at New Brunswick, New Jersey, in 1740, *was educated with his brother Peter at the College in Philadelphia; entered the British army as Ensign in the* 44*th. Foot, May* 5, 1757, *during the French war, and first served in the campaign under Lord Howe, which ended in the repulse of Ticonderoga and the death of that General, being then a Lieutenant in the* 50*th. Regiment. In* 1760 *he was transferred as Lieutenant to the* 15*th. Regiment, and became Captain in the* 60*th., or Royal American, Regiment of Foot,* 24*th. January,* 1765. *On August* 2*d.,* 1772, *he received the staff appointment of "Deputy Adjutant-General of the Forces in North America," succeeding Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Richard Maitland in that office, which carried with it the rank of "Major in the Army." He became Major of the* 60*th. Foot, First Battalion, June* 6*th.,* 1775, *and Lieutenant-Colonel of the same regiment and Battalion June* 6*th.,* 1778, *Lord Amherst being its Colonel-in-chief. Previous to this date he had received, on* 29*th. August,* 1777, *the rank of "Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army," and on November* 20*th.,* 1782, *he was commissioned a full "Colonel in the Army." In the autumn of* 1779, *Lord Rawdon resigned the Adjutant-Generalcy of the British army and Kemble, who had been Deputy Adjutant-General since* 1772, *desired to be promoted to the vacant place. But Sir Henry Clinton, then Commander-in-Chief—by whom he was not liked—declined to appoint him, whereupon he resigned the deputyship, after certain negotiations with Captain John André, of the* 54*th. Foot, and Sir Henry Clinton, in virtue of which the former was appointed by the latter "Deputy Adjutant-General in his place, and thus became "Major André." As has been stated, Colonel Kemble sailed from New York November* 30*th.,* 1779, *to join his regiment, the* 60*th. Foot, First Battalion, then on duty in the Island of Jamaica, where he arrived on the* 8*th. of January,* 1780; *then followed his command and services in Nicaragua and the Spanish Main. Subsequently he returned to*

England, but in 1785 *rejoined his regiment again in the Island of Granada, serving with it there and in other West India Islands. Coming back to England in* 1788, *he went the same year to New Brunswick, in which province he and one of his brothers held lands on the St. John River, but returned again to London in the beginning of* 1789. *In* 1793 *he was appointed a "Deputy Judge Advocate in America," and in* 1797 *Deputy Judge Advocate to the Earl of Moira's expedition intended for the continent of Europe, who was his former friend the Lord Rawdon of the American war. He finally sold out and returned to America in the year* 1805, *and resided the rest of his life at New Brunswick, New Jersey, in the house in which he was born, and which he owned. There he died on Friday, the* 20*th. of December,* 1822, *in his eighty-second year, and was interred in the churchyard of Christ Church, New Brunswick, on the* 22*d. of the same month. He was warden of Christ Church from January* 1*st.,* 1809, *to his death. He never married.*

V. William, the youngest of the five sons of Peter Kemble of New Jersey, died in England, a Captain in the British army.

VI. Margaret, the eldest of Peter Kemble's daughters, married on the 8*th. of December,* 1758, *General Thomas Gage, Commander-in-Chief of the British army in America, and later Governor of Massachusetts, who was the second son of Thomas, eighth Baronet and first Viscount Gage. The General's brother William Hall, second Viscount, had no son, and on his death the dignities passed to the General's eldest son Henry, third Viscount Gage, born* 4*th. March,* 1761, *who married,* 11*th. January,* 1789, *his cousin Susannah Maria, only daughter and heir of Lieutenant-General William Skinner by his wife Susan, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Admiral Sir Peter Warren, K. B., whose wife was Susannah de Lancey, the eldest of the two daughters of Etienne (in English Stephen) de Lancey, the first in America of the family of that name, and*

Ann Van Cortlandt, who was a sister of Mrs. General Gage's mother, Mrs. Samuel Bayard, and the second daughter of Stephanus Van Cortlandt, of the Manor of Cortlandt. Lieutenant-General Skinner's mother was also a Van Cortlandt of the same family, being Elizabeth, the seventh daughter of Stephanus. Thus in the children of the third Viscount Gage were united three lines of the Van Cortlandt blood. He was succeeded by his eldest son Henry Hall, fourth Viscount, and he by his grandson Henry Charles, the fifth and present Viscount Gage. The other children of General Gage and Margaret Kemble were: John; Sir William Hall Gage, Admiral of the White; Marion, wife of Sir James Crauford; Louisa, wife of Sir James H. Blake; Harriet, who died single; Charlotte Margaret, wife of Admiral Sir Charles Ogle; and Emily, wife of Montagu Bertie, fifth Earl of Abingdon. The last and her husband were also cousins, for Lord Abingdon's mother was Charlotte, another of Sir Peter Warren and Susannah DeLancey's daughters, and a sister of the wife of Lieutenant-General Skinner above mentioned. Mrs. General Gage died the 9th. of February, 1824, *having survived her husband, who died in* 1788, *thirty-six years.*

Mrs. General Gage was also a first cousin of Pierre Van Cortlandt, first Lieutenant-Governor of the State *of New York; General Philip Schuyler of the Revolutionary Army; James de Lancey, Chief-Justice and Lieutenant-Governor of the* Province *of New York; Peter de Lancey of Westchester; General Oliver de Lancey, Senior Loyalist Brigadier-General of New York in the Revolutionary war; John Van Cortlandt, the prominent New York City Whig leader in* 1776; *Stephen Van Rensselaer, sixth Patroon, and third Lord of the Manor, of Rensselaerswyck; and Stephen Van Cortlandt, the father of Colonel Philip Van Cortlandt of the British regular Army in the Revolutionary war, and head of the Van Cortlandt family—all of whom were sons of the brothers and sisters of*

her mother, Mrs. Margaret Bayard, and grandsons of Stephanus Van Cortlandt above named, her grandfather. A striking illustration of the close, as well as wide, kinship of the chief colonial families of New York.

VII. Judith, the youngest daughter of Peter Kemble by his first wife, married Archibald McCall, a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia, by whom she had eighteen children, and died there at the great age of eighty-nine years.

Peter Kemble, of New Jersey, married secondly Elizabeth Tuite, of an old Irish family settled in Maryland, by whom he had three children (one son and two daughters).

VIII. Robert, born April 5th., 1755. *He was in the commissary department of the British army during the Revolution, but afterwards retired from the service. He was twice married. His first wife left no children. His second was a daughter of General Cadwallader of Philadelphia, who left one daughter Mary, married to General Sumner of Massachusetts. He lived at Mount Kemble, where he died January* 1, 1820, *and is buried.*

IX. and X. Elizabeth, born 18th. December, 1753, *and Ann, born 9th. of June*, 1757, *the two daughters, never married. They resided at Mount Kemble, and both died at advanced ages, the former on the 16th. of June*, 1836, *and the latter on the 2d. of September*, 1820.

Peter Kemble, the brother of Colonel Stephen and third son of Peter Kemble, of New Jersey, previously mentioned as having married Gertrude Gouverneur and settled in New York, died there July 6th., 1823, *at the age of eighty-four. He left four sons and two daughters.*

1. GOUVERNEUR, *of Cold Spring, the eldest son, born 25th. January*, 1786, *died a bachelor, at Cold Spring, 16th. December*, 1875. *After graduating at Columbia College, in* 1803, *he went to Spain, where he was appointed an agent for the United States Government during the*

war with the Barbary States, and was subsequently Consul at Cadiz. In 1816, *at the suggestion of officers of the Government, he organized, soon after he returned home, the West Point Foundry Association, for the manufacture of cannon—there being then no foundry where they could be well cast, and none at all north of Richmond, Va.—and located it at Cold Spring, on the Hudson, opposite West Point. He moved there in* 1817, *and resided at that place till his death, in* 1875, *in his ninetieth year. He was a Democratic member of the Twenty-sixth Congress,* 1839–1841, *from the old Fourth District of New York. He represented the county of Putnam in the New York Constitutional Convention of* 1846, *and was prominent in promoting the building of the Hudson River and the Panama Railroads. He was the owner of "Cockloft Hall," on the Passaic, so celebrated by Washington Irving and James K. Paulding in "Salmagundi," and their life-long friend and companion. He was celebrated all his life for his great and genial hospitality at his home in Cold Spring, called by Irving "the Bachelor's Elysium." His manners were so strikingly friendly, cordial, and polite, that General Winfield Scott once said "he was the most perfect gentleman in the United States." He was also a great lover of art, and made a valuable collection in Spain of the works of the Spanish masters, still in the possession of the family. He managed the West Point Foundry upwards of thirty years, when he retired from the business and was succeeded in it by Mr. Robert Parker Parrott, who had married his sister.*

2. PETER, *the second son, was unfortunately drowned November 24th.,* 1813, *in his twenty-sixth year, while in business with his father.*

3. WILLIAM, *the third son, also a graduate of Columbia College, established himself in New York as a commission merchant, where he was for many years the sole agent of the West Point Foundry Association and many of the boiler-plate rolling mills in Pennsylvania. About the time that steam navigation became firmly estab-*

lished on the Hudson, the West Point Foundry Association erected its machine shops at the foot of Beach Street, New York, on that river, under William Kemble's direction, and there many of the engines of the steamboats running in New York waters before 1838 *were built. In that year the machine shops were removed to Cold Spring and consolidated with the works at that place.*

He married Margaret Chatham Seth, a descendant of an old Maryland family, and had seven children—three sons and four daughters: William, the eldest, who died shortly after graduating from Columbia College; Peter, the second, who was originally in the navy, but left it after the death of his elder brother, and joined his father in his counting-house, and for many years was actively engaged in business. He married Victorine Elizabeth Du Pont, daughter of Alfred Du Pont, of the distinguished family of that name, of Wilmington, Delaware, and died in 1887, *leaving two sons and two daughters. He and his eldest son, Peter, are the gentlemen who have generously placed the originals of the valuable and important papers of Colonel Stephen Kemble at the disposal of the New York Historical Society, for publication in its volumes of "Collections" for the years* 1883 *and* 1884.

Gouverneur, the youngest son, was also engaged for many years in business at Cold Spring and New York, and is still living. He married Julia Tillou, daughter of the late Francis R. Tillou, a distinguished lawyer and Recorder of New York, and has a family of two sons and four daughters.

The daughters of Mr. William Kemble were: Margaret, who married Charles J. Nourse, of the District of Columbia; Gertrude, who died in infancy; Ellen, who now resides in the city of New York, unmarried; and Mary, the widow of Frederick D. Lente, M.D., originally of North Carolina, then of Cold Spring, and finally of Florida, where he died, leaving three daughters him surviving.

4. RICHARD, *born in* 1800, *graduated from Columbia College and became a lawyer, but never practised. He married Charlotte, one of the daughters of James Morris, of Morrisania, who died a few years after her marriage. He inherited Mount Kemble, New Jersey, from his uncle, Richard, but afterward sold it and removed to New York, and later to Cold Spring, where he died in* 1888, *at the age of eighty-eight. He left an only daughter, Mary Walton Kemble, who is still living*

5. GERTRUDE, *the eldest daughter, married the late James Kirke Paulding, associated with Washington Irving in the publication of "Salmagundi," and the author of many well-known works of fiction, and who was Secretary of the Navy in the administration of President Van Buren. Mrs. Paulding died in* 1841, *leaving four sons, three of whom are still living; one, Mr. William I. Paulding, having died while this note was passing through the press.*

6. MARY, *the youngest of the two daughters of Peter Kemble and Gertrude Gouverneur, married Robert Parker Parrott, a graduate of West Point Military Academy, in* 1824, *and captain of ordnance in the United States Army. Having been sent as an ordnance officer to Cold Spring foundry as a Government inspector of cannon, he became so interested in the subject that he resigned from the army in* 1836, *and entered the Foundry Association as its superintendent, subsequently leased the works on the retirement of the Hon. Gouverneur Kemble, his brother-in-law, carried them on for many years, and finally retired from business with a fortune, in* 1867. *He was the inventor and maker of the "Parrott gun," which was of such great use and importance to the United States Government in the late civil war. His widow is still living at Cold Spring, at the great age of ninety years.*

In the official British "Army Lists" Colonel Stephen Kemble's name appears among the half-pay Deputy Judge Advocates up to the year 1829, *which, therefore, was given as the date of his death in the prefatory note*

to the first volume. The actual date above stated showing the error was not found till after that volume was completed.

To the present Mr. Gouverneur Kemble, of New York, and his sister, Miss Ellen Kemble, the committee is indebted for the private papers and information from which most of this account of the family has been prepared.

EDWARD F. DE LANCEY,
Chairman.

THE KEMBLE PAPERS.

VOL. II.

1780–1781.

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I.

JOURNALS

OF

LIEUT.-COL. STEPHEN KEMBLE,

BRIGADIER-GENERAL IN COMMAND

OF THE

EXPEDITION TO NICARAGUA.

1780—1781.

JOURNALS OF

BRIGADIER-GENERAL KEMBLE.

1780.

Saturday, Jan. 1st. Nothing Extraordinary.

Sunday, Jan. 2d. Saw two Sail, spoke a Dutch Man from Port Prince to Curacao; fired into her 12 pounder Grape Shot. Captain came on board.

Monday, Jan. 3d. & 4th. Light Breezy off Cape Tiburon.

Wednesday, Jan. 5th. Made Port Antonio; thick Weather, and near the Breakers.

Thursday, Jan. 6th. & 7th. Wind at West; made no way; standing off and on.

Saturday, Jan. 8th. Arrived at Montego Bay from New York.

Sunday, Jan. 9th. At Montego Bay.

Wednesday, Jan. 12th. Set out on my Journey to Spanish Town.

Sunday, Jan. 16th. Got to Spanish Town. Politely received by the Governour; found Captain Polson going on an Expedition to the Spanish Main; offered my Services; would have been accepted, but could not deprive Captain Polson of the Command.

Captain Dalrymple just returned from Fort St. Ferdenando de Omoa, which he had surprised and taken by Escalade, with some Marines and Seamen. Two rich Ships taken in the Harbour.

Sunday, Jan. 16th., to Saturday, April 1st. Continued with the Regiment [First Battalion of 60th., or

Royal American Regiment of Foot] at Spanish Town, find the Officers very inattentive to their duty, and Discipline much relaxed. The Soldiers' situation very much worse, as well as that of the Officers, than I had reason to suppose from former Accounts ; the Price of Provisions, and every necessity of life most extravagantly dear. The Officers and Soldiers in America much better off in every respect. The Officer Sutler to his Company, productive of much impropriety of Conduct.

Sunday, April 2d. Decided I should go to the Spanish Main with a Reinforcement, and to Command; take down about 270 Regulars, and 250 of a new Corps, called the Legion, composed mostly of Sailors.

Monday, April 10th. Sailed from Jamaica, in the Ulysses. Resource and Victor, King's Ships, and Monarch, Venus, and Industry, Transports.

Thursday, April 20th. Arrived at St. John's Harbour about one o'Clock ; informed by Lieutenant Brown, 60th., who was left with the Command, that Colonel Polson left this about the *1st.* of the Month ; that he had no Intelligence of or from him.

Friday, April 21st. By a Letter from Mr. Samuel Jones, Commissary of Stores, &c., to Captain Thompson, of the Ship Horatio, dated Colorada Island, 21 miles up, dated *April 17th.* We are informed that an Express arrived there from Colonel Polson on the Night of the *15th.*, with directions to send up all the four pound round shot he could. That Colonel Polson surprised the lookout on the *10th.*; two Men wounded on our side, but took all Prisoners except the Officer and one Man. When the Express came away we had Attacked the Castle three days from a small Battery on a Hill, and that Captain Neilson with one field piece was on the other side, whose first Shot carried away their Colours. The Negroes say they have no Doubt but the Castle is by this time in our possession. One man of the 79th. killed only.

Upon receiving this Intelligence, I accepted with thanks of the offer of the Commodore to forward any Troops and Stores I might think most necessary to send up in the Men of War's Boats, and in consequence ordered a Detachment of 70 Men of the 79th. Regiment, and 80 of the Legion, to proceed as soon as possible, with the two 5½-Inch Howitzers and their Apparatus, and as much Provision as the Boats will carry.

Saturday, April 22d. The Weather being exceedingly bad all Yesterday, the Detachment could not proceed till this day at 4 in the afternoon. A Vessel to be prepared to go to Black River, and 1 for Craft and Slaves. The Engineers ordered to lay out a Battery Redoubt and Block house for the Defence of the Harbour. A Two Gun Battery, not finished, the only defence of the Harbour. By all Accounts yet received, the course of the River is not above 70 or 80 Miles.

Sunday, April 23d. & 24th. Employed in getting Logs for the Redoubt. On the Evening of the latter day Captain Collins came from Colonel Polson for Provisions, having left him before Fort St. Juan, the Evening of the *23d.*, all in good health. The Garrison of the Fort appear distressed for water, which our People cut them off from. A mine carried to the foot of the Fort will be ready to spring the *25th.* By the best Accounts it is about 50 miles to the Fort up the River, and from thirty to forty from thence to the Lake.

Tuesday, April 25th. Dispatched six Pitpans with Provisions to Colonel Polson, commanded by Captain Thompson.

The Harbour of St. Johns very fine, but unhealthy ; the land low and marshy and covered with Mangroves all round. The Point very ill adapted for a Redoubt, but no other place. It is thought the Branch of Carataga runs within 15 miles of Town of same name.

The Spaniards, it is thought, had no expectations of

our having a Regular force, and thought they were only Mosquito Indians.

Wednesday, April 26th. & 27th. Employed in Collecting Logs on the Point for the Battery, as the Transport Boats had been some days before in bringing Logs from the Mouth of the River for same use.

Friday, April 28th. Mr. Shaw, the Commissary, arrived from Fort St. Juan's with a Craft, and despatched with a quantity of Provisions by the Evening. By Mr. Shaw I am informed he left the Fort the *25th.* There were then only seven days' Provisions remaining for the Troops under Colonel Polson. The Mine carried only 17 yards, and a Rock obstructed their further progress; the carrying it on doubtful. All the four-pound Round Shot expended; more on the Road. Only 40 12-pound Shot sent up; More to be procured. Great neglect in the Officers Commanding Parties, relative to the Care of Stores of all Sorts. The Battery at the Point much retarded on Account of the Want of Carpenters' and Engineers' Tools.

Saturday, April 29th. Captain Neilson came from the Castle.

Sunday, April 30th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Monday, May 1st. All Employed on the Works.

Tuesday, May 2d. Employed on the Works. Captain Neilson sailed for Jamaica. All Employed on Works. Black Tom came from Turtle Bogue, a Sly, sensible fellow. Am surprised at not receiving any Account from Polson.

Wednesday, May 3d. In the Evening, The Admiral and McFarlin, two Indian Chiefs, came from Colonel Polson, with Accounts that the Castle Surrendered on the *29th.* They brought no Letters, and Stole away, being Sickly, in want of Provisions, etc.

Thursday, May 4th. The Governor, a Sambo, came down with a Craft. Deserted the same Night.

Friday, May 5th. The Redoubt going forward as

fast as possible. Mr. Jessirick, the Engineer, ill. Mr. Schomberg recovering.

Saturday, May 6th. About one o'Clock the Spanish Prisoners arrived; were put on Board the Venus Transport till the Monarch could be prepared for their reception; 202 officers included. The King, Admiral and Duke, Mosquito Chiefs, with a Guard, brought them down in 14 Craft. These Indians had been very sickly at the Fort, were much dispirited, and Angry at not being allowed to Plunder the Castle and make Slaves of all the Prisoners they took; could not be persuaded to return.

Sunday, May 7th. Understand all the Indians intend going off with their Craft; find myself under a necessity of seizing their Craft. The King and Admiral come on Board to complain; give each a Boat to go Home with. The Duke gone off in a small Boat, and obliged his People to walk. My distress for the want of Men to Navigate the Craft very great, and at a loss how to surmount it. Collect all the hands I can find; finished all my Public Letters this Evening; and put the direction of the Battery in the hands of Captain Collingwood.

Monday, May 8th. Set out for the Castle with Major of Brigade Brown and Doctor Welsh, leaving Colonel Dalrymple in the Command at the Harbour, with directions to forward the Boats with Provisions and Stores with all possible despatch. Proceeded about nine miles that night; the weather bad, so much so that we could not make a fire.

Tuesday, May 9th. Got to Captain Cooper's Post at half past two. This Post lays upon an Island about 21 Miles from the Harbour. I should have observed that the River Nicaragua runs into St. Johns about 2½ miles from the Harbour. I found no sort of a Redoubt at this Post, and the Men in a miserable condition. The River to this place is low and shoaly, not half a Mile wide, and interspersed with a number of Islands covered with fine Scotch Grass. The

Banks are low, and the Country near the Post seems to be drowned. Though it rained fifteen days, we, though in a Canoe, run frequently aground. The woods abound in Game, such as Warrus, or wild Hogs, Guanas, Ducks, Pigeons, Currasoa Birds, Quams, both as big as Turkeys.

Wednesday, May 10th. Left Cook's Post about 7 in the morning, and proceeded about ten mile through a continued heavy Rain; encamped upon a sandy point about 3 o'Clock; made a large fire and dried our moist Blankets and Clothes; but we were pestered with such numbers of Mosquitoes that we could take no rest. The land from Cook's Post to this is higher than below, and about 5 miles from Cook's Post we saw large stones for the first time. The River here is about three-quarters of a mile in breadth; is more rapid, but less shoaly than lower down. A great quantity of Game in the Woods here, and the greatest variety of beautiful feathered Birds. By the Luxuriancy of the Scotch Grass you see in many places, it is supposed that the Soil is very rich upon the River in General.

Thursday, May 11th. Left our Encampment at a quarter after six; the first three miles rapid, the fourth smooth, still water; a long, low sand point, or Island, stretching from the right towards the left of the River. Paddled about 3 miles further; Strong Water; here we saw heaps of Stone at a Point. Passed the Mouth of the Serapequi River; at its junction with the St. John's there is a strong Rapid. Made about 10 miles this day, and slept on Board the Lord Germain. The Country on each side of the River is higher than below, and the Current stronger.

Friday, May 12th. Left the Lord Germain a quarter before Seven; the morning close with small Showers of Rain; halted at 8 on a sandy point stretching from the left two-thirds across the River, supposed six or seven miles from where we left the Germain; the land on each side of the River higher than

usual. At three-quarters past four landed upon a low sandy point on the right hand, about 6 miles further; here we found a Gun Carriage and some Boxes of Artillery Stores left by some of the People,—they say by the Ulysses' long Boat. Here the River rose during the Night near a foot, which it always does, and falls in the day time; came this day about 13 miles.

Saturday, May 13th. Departed from our Encampment a quarter after Six; paddled about 3 miles, and had a view of the high Mountains which lay over the Costa Rica River. On approaching we could discover the small Chain of Mountains which extend from the above towards the Carataga River, and forms four distinct tops. Advancing a mile more we made a small Island on the River, and a considerable opening on the left, which is an entrance into the Carataga. We kept the right hand shore till we came abreast of the lower point of an Island, pretty high, and Commands the passage of both Rivers perfectly. We then crossed to it, and went to it, keeping it upon our left for about a quarter of a mile,—the length as near as we could judge. In the first Channel of the Costa Rica, and in a line with the lower end of the Island, is a very high sand bank; but, from there being very little or no herbage upon it, suppose it overflown at times. After getting above the Island we stop upon another sand bank at the mouth of the upper passage of the Costa Rica, formed by the Island mentioned before. This Island is so well Calculated for a Post that I mean to Establish one there as soon as possible. The Costa Rica has the appearance of a much larger and broader River than the St. John's. About a Mile from this you come to still water. We found the right hand Shore, during our morning's Paddle, very Rocky, which is uncommon. As we pursued our route we found the Lands rising here and there into Beautiful Hills, and at some places into very high Mountains. The Land appears

to be good, and, if Cultivated, would produce every article of Life in Abundance. We encamped about 5 o'Clock, having made that day about 17 miles. The River varies its course very often during the whole course of it.

Sunday, May 14th. Arrived at the Falls about 8 in the morning. Came about 4 Miles. Found Lieut. Tassart's Legion there with two Craft that could not make their way up. Landed and walked up the first and second Rapids, a narrow path through the woods. Came to an encampment and landing. Waited for the Boat, which got to us at half past ten. The land we marched over a cold Clay and not of the best quality. Two mile higher we met Captain Schroters with fifteen craft of all sorts. Received letters from Colonel Polson; in consequence wrote to the Officer Commanding at the Harbour of St. John's. Landed at the 3d Rapid and marched to look out Island, which is about half a mile in length and one quarter in breadth. Here we arrived about 3 o'Clock, and stayed all night with a Corporal and 24 of 79th. Regiment, who had come to the foot of the Falls in the two Craft. At the upper end of look out Island you ford very easily from the right hand shore going up. Found an open breast work upon the lower end of the Island, and fixture for a Swivel or Blunderbuss to command the passage of the River. This day's distance we suppose to be about 10 miles to the foot of the Falls, and six to look out Island.

Monday, May 15th. Left look out Island at half past 6 morning; Current very strong for a mile and a half above it. Got to the Castle about half-past Eleven; you observe it near a mile and a half before you get up; the Country seems to be rich about, and the Trees luxuriant. Took the Command of the Troops; find everything in disorder, owing to the weak state of the whole, not having a Relief for the Guard.

Monday, May 16th. General Order. All the

Plank Timber, &c., to be reserved for Public Service; the Soldiers to fetch their Fuel from the Wood.

All orders heretofore given by Colonel Polson are to continue in force, and such other Orders as he may think necessary to give are to be obeyed; the Spanish Prisoners and Slaves to be employed in Cleansing the Castle.

Wednesday, May 17th. Colonel Polson appointed to Act as Quarter Master General, and to Command the Battalion of Regulars till further orders. This day dispatched Mr. W——t to the Lake.

Thursday, May 18th. 19th. and 20th. The Transactions of these days will appear in Orderly Books. (Note.) From my arrival gave every direction for the Preservation of Provision, Stores, etc.; but have no one to put it in Execution, all being Sick. Our Camp and other Guards very inadequate to the duty, but must say very Insufficient, and we may be surprised without a possibility of preventing it. Captain Bulkely, of 79th, ordered to Act as Adjutant-General during the absence of Adjutant-General Mounsey.

Sunday, May 21st. Orders for all Soldiers who die to be buried a distance from the Encampment. A Captain of the day appointed.

Monday, May 22d. Commanding Officers of Corps to send a return of such Men as understand burning of Charcoal. Necessary places being made in front of the Encampment, no Soldier or other person to ease himself anywhere else, as nothing contributes more to the Preservation of health than cleanliness. Such as are found to disobey this order will be severely punished.

Tuesday, May 23d. All Soldiers Employed as Artificers, and who really understand their business, will from hence forward be allowed 5 Bitts per day for each day they Work; the Engineer to keep a list of them and settle their Accounts every Saturday Evening, that there may not be any complaints hereafter.

Commanding Officers are desired to order all the tools in possession of their Corps, and near them, to be collected and given in Charge of the Guard. Officers are requested to apply to the Engineer when they want Tools, as the loss of them would be very prejudicial to the Service. In Consequence of an Official Letter from Major Cribb to Capt. Bulkely, he is appointed Captain-Lieutenant; Colvil, Lieutenant; and Ensign Schomberg, Lieutenant.

A Return of the Masons in each Corps to be sent to M. B. Brown immediately; these People to be employed in repairing the Roofs of the different Apartments in the Fort,—very necessary for the Officers who may be sick during the Rainy Season, and to cover the Garrison in case of our proceeding further up.

Wednesday, May 24th. Nothing Extraordinary, but the increase of our Sick.

Thursday, May 25th. Arrived two Craft with Provision from the Harbour, with them came Lieut. Hill and 26 Men who had been left on board the Lord Germain, which Vessel got to the Falls on the *21st.* Capt. Thompson and Lieut. Patterson, black Company, gone to her Assistance with 30 Men, and some rope, to get or endeavor to get her over the Falls.

Friday, May 26th. Nothing extraordinary, but my Indisposition confirmed.

Saturday, May 27th. Mr. Despard, the Engineer, went up the River, and entered a Creek, upon the right hand, about two Mile from the Fort; saw a number of Tracks of Horses, of mules shod, of Horned Cattle, and men on foot. My Baggage Boat arrived with a Woeful Account of my Stores, the whole of my Wine almost being destroyed. The Pilots (Spanish) say they are Indians who lived in the Woods, are gone to Granada, but have no village except temporary Huts; may be all such.

Sunday, May 28th. The Engineer went again up the River to make further researches.

Monday, May 29th. Doctor Saunderson arrived from the Harbour, which he left on the *15th.;* unhappy to learn from him the Death of Messrs. Mounsey and Jeserick. He informs me that two Boats, Manned by the Legion, came to Capt. Cook's Post from some distance up the River; that they had been partly Manned by Spaniards, who mutinied, got the Better of the Officers and the Men, and went off with their Arms, etc. The Lord Germain over the second fall.

Tuesday, May 30th. and 31st. Nothing Extraordinary.

Thursday, June 1st. Col. Dalrymple arrived. Hear of part of the 3 pounder Apparatus being lost by the Craft oversetting; and great difficulty in getting the Provision forward. Not capable, from my extreme illness, of doing any business. Dr. Welche's fatigue has brought a Fever on him.

Friday, June 2d. Very low indeed and not adequate to business of any sort.

Saturday, June 3d. Mr. Shaw arrived. Am told Craft with Provisions may be expected. Still incapable of any business.

Sunday, June 4th. Something better, but not equal to Public business.

Monday, June 5th. and 6th. Continue so much disordered in my head that I can do no business. The Lord Germain arrived this day.

Wednesday, June 7th. Removed to the Castle. Much indisposed. Sent twenty sick to the Harbour.

Thursday, June 8th. Capt. Collins came from the Harbour by the Nicaragua Branch, which takes its course to the right about one and a half Mile from the Harbour. Many Craft on the way, but they find great difficulty, from Sickness, etc., to get on. The Soldiers in general knocked up before they get here and recover very slow indeed.

This day Capt. Hallam and Lieut. Leo went down sick, as also Capt. Colvil, to command at the harbour, with about 70 Sick Men.

Friday, June 9th. Seized last night with a Spasm at Pit of Stomach, as I was on the Night of *8th.* and *9th.*

Remarks on Castle, which was built 125 Years ago, and so situated on a rising ground, the Ascent to it on every side steep, except the West, at which point you enter it; on the East and North our Soldiers made a lodgment under the Hill, by which means the Garrison was totally cut off from Water, which obliged them to Surrender; here the River forms a Rapid and is about 400 Yards across. The Fort is in length about 65 Yards, the breadth 31, with four Bastions, one at each Angle, there are five Entrances in each Bastion and four in the Eastern Curtain, which are placed there to Annoy the Boats coming up the River.

There is an imperfect Ditch round it about 10 foot wide and three deep, a small Barrack, and Pickets on it, from the N. W. to the S. E. Bastion. The Height of the wall from the bottom of the Ditch to the Cordon is about 11 feet, and from that to the top of the wall about 4. There are Hills to the S. and W. of it much higher, and not above 300 Yards distance, so that Artillery from 9 to 18 pounders would reduce it in a few days. The Hill on which the Fort stands is supposed to be one hundred feet higher than the River. The Soldiers afflicted with Bilious, Remitting, and Intermitting fevers, with fluxes.

From *22d.* May to the *9th.* June the Officers have been, to a man, almost all sick. The Men's Tents so bad that they keep out no water. My Intention to build Huts, but have not Men to do it, and Provisions very scarce, So much so as to Alarm me. Relapses almost certain the moment a Soldier does any duty. The Troops so sickly that some Corps have not a Man fit for duty, and the few Guards we have obliged to remain from two to six days on duty. The Negroes from the Bay of Honduras stand the Climate and are better Calculated for Service in this Country than any other People. Craft they are clever at; our Soldiers from

20 to 30 days on the passage from the Harbour, and arrive mostly sick, when these People would make the Voyage in 12 or 15 days and few suffer by it.

There should be an additional Officer and a Surgeon appointed to each Company in this Climate. Mr. Welche almost the only Surgeon who is able to Visit the Sick, and his fatigue has brought a Fever on him.

The Moisture is so great, that small boxes joined by Glue fall asunder. From December to May is the proper time for Expeditions in this Country. The difficulty in transporting Provisions, Stores, &c., from the Harbour not to be expressed, and the inattention of Officers and others in the Transportation of Artillery and other Military Stores, which have been lost on the way and destroyed in a most shameful manner.

Saturday, June 10th. Our Officers and Men still continue Sick, and no Amendment.

Sunday, June 11th. The Germain got over the Rapids this day; all the Carpenters we can muster Employed on her; hope She will be ready in 6 or 7 days. Mr. Despard gone to the Lake.

Monday, June 12th. All hands employed on the Germain. Received Dispatches from General Dalling.

Tuesday, June 13. Mr. Despard returned, having come upon a Spanish Sentry on the morning of Yesterday, about 150 Yards from Redoubt at the right hand point of the Lake, which Port the Spaniards have occupied; the severest stroke could be given us, but we mean to attempt its possession in a short time, and as soon as the Flat Boat can possibly be got fit to sail.

Wednesday, June 14th. Nothing Extraordinary. At noon, Mr. Despard, the Engineer, and Captain Davis, Jamaica Volunteers, went this Evening to get further Intelligence of the Enemy's Motion at the Lake.

Thursday, June 14th. Some Rain and very close Moist Weather, considered by the Doctor as the principal cause of the fevers, which return so often in his

patients that he is quite dispirited. The Rains by every Account set in generally at this time and continue till the month of August; then the Weather is better till September, when the rain sets in again and lasts till latter end of November, when dog weather comes on, and strong Easterly Winds from the Sea keep it healthy till the beginning of May. The want of proper nourishment, both for Officers and Private Men, the cause of their continuing so low, and the want of Blankets and necessaries contributes to it, some of the Legion having nothing but a Shirt and pair of Trowsers, and some of the 79th. very ill off indeed, Neither Blanket or Shoe or Stocking. This day Ensign Plees, of 60th., arrived in the Chiketa with some Artillery Stores.

Friday, June 16th. Nothing Extraordinary but my own health mending.

Saturday, June 17th. A strange and uncommon neglect of duty happened in the Castle last Night. Five of the Indians Prisoners, two of whom were Pilots (and whom I intended to Employ) upon the Lake, made their Escape through the shameful neglect of the Guard and Want of Discipline of the Corps (L. I. C.). These People had been confined every Night regularly by my order, but when Colonel Dalrymple came up I was Sick in Camp, and recollect telling him he might put his men in the Castle, The Guard of which he promised to take; from which time the Prisoners were suffered to lay upon the Ramparts. The Guard reduced from fifteen to six, and no Sentries but one at the Gate, and one in the Area below, when formerly there were five, one in each Bastion. They will no doubt find their way to the Enemy, who are not above thirty Miles off, therefore this Escape must be deemed unfortunate to us, and of great consequence to the Spaniards, if we grant those fellows were capable of adjusting what they might have heard and seen.

Sunday, June 18th. Went to see the Lord Germain for the first time this morning; don't find her in that forwardness I expected.

Monday, June 19th. Captain Lamb, who never was sick in any other place, had a fever Yesterday.

Tuesday, June 20th. Two of Legion discovered the Prisoners that had Escaped, about half a Mile above the Advance Guard, and parties were sent after them; found their Hut and a Raft they were making, which they destroyed.

Wednesday, June 21st. Lieut. Despard, the Engineer, and Captain Davis returned this Evening from a Reconnoitering party. Lieut. Despard being ill, Captain Davis reconnoitered the Spanish Post and brought the following Account, Viz.: that on the *15th. June*, at 11 o'Clock at Night, arrived at a small Creek, where we hauled upon our Dorey and Pitpan, and next morning proceeded to Cut a Path through the Woods. The party—then consisting of Eleven Men and a Serjeant, directed by Mr. Despard, Engineer—Continued cutting the path all that and the next day, which I suppose to be about a Mile in length, and on the *19th.* I advanced with one Man, making the smallest trace I could; at 12 o'Clock the Man from the top of a high tree, acquainted me he saw the Enemy, I immediately Climbed to the Top, and discovered a schooner and Sloop, moored as laid down in the annexed Sketch. In the Schooner, I think I observed four Port holes in her side, but no Guns out; in the Sloop three, with one Gun on each side. On an Eminence 60 feet perpendicular from the Surface of the Water, and just at the point, I saw the Enemy busily employed in erecting a Battery and the Parapet, composed of Logs filled with Earth. That side of the Hill, facing the River appears to be well defended by an Abbattis, or Trees felled at all Angles to the point, where there seems to be a passage or Communication with the River. The whole inclosure on the East side is made up of an indifferent fence of Poles and Stockades.

The Ground on the opposite side from where I observed the Enemy is all Marshy and low, but not in my opinion altogether impassable for Cannon. On the

20th. I went nearer the Enemy, and searched around for high or firm ground attended by one Man, the party then consisting of three Men, whom I ordered to remain at a certain spot till my return or they heard from me, and continued to make my Observations, but found at my Return they were gone; when I came up to Mr. Despard and found they had not come to him, I dispatched four Men in search of them who at 4 o'Clock at night returned without any account of them. I immediately ordered the Men to bring the Dorey and Embarked the remainder of the party with Mr. Despard and myself, apprehending the consequence of Desertion; leaving however a Pitpan and 3 Paddles, in case this had not been the case, to enable them to return.

(Signed) Edward Davis,
Captain Irish Royal Volunteers.

Thursday, June 22d. Employed in finishing my Letters.

Friday, June 23d. Mr. Shaw set off with my Dispatches with Capt. Campbell, Superintendent of Crafts, who resigned the Evening before, and Capt. Dalrymple. Very short of Provisions. Capt. Aldred, Legion, Capt. Harrison, L.I.C., Lieut. Gascoyne, 79th., Lieut. Tomperly, 79th., and Volunteer Vernon, 79th., gone down to the Harbour for their health.

Saturday, June 24th. The Germain will be in readiness to Sail to-morrow morning; have appointed Major McDonald to Command her, when he thinks proper, and Mr. McAlister to be Lieutenant of her, during good behaviour.

Sunday, June 25th. Very much surprised at a sight of not one Craft from below. Mr. Baldwin, with Mr. Shaw's Pitpans, and fourteen Men, went to Falls, *21st.* Mr. Collins went down before, and Mr. Johnes, Store Keeper of Artillery, went Yesterday, none of which have been heard of except Collins, who, we are told, is gone to the Harbour.

Monday, June 26th. The Germain got under way

to proceed up the River, but the Evening proving very bad she came to. Heavy Rains and a great Flood; two of our Craft and a Pitpan gone a Drift. The following Appointments put in orders this day:

Jamaica Volunteers.—Lieutenant and Adjutant John Pellett to be Captain vice Bertrand deceased *17th. May*, 1780; Ensign Simon Booth to be Lieutenant vice Pellett preferred *17th. May*, 1780; James Farquahar, Gentleman, to be Ensign vice Booth preferred *17th. May*, 1780; Mr. Bryan Mighan to be Adjutant vice Pellett *26th. June*, 1780; Mr. William McDonald to be Quarter Master *26th. June*, 1780.

Tuesday, June 27th. A heavy Rain last Night, which raised the Water upwards of a foot by 12 o'Clock, when our Craft began to be carried away, two of which are gone; the rest saved by timely assistance; surprised that not any Craft are at the look out.

Wednesday, June 28th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Thursday, June 29th. Send Capt. Lamb to know the reason why the Craft are not up. Our Provisions very scanty indeed, but depend upon the Vigilance and Activity of Capt. Thompson, B. R. Company, and Mr. Shaw, that it is sent up in time.

The Rainy Season appears to be set in.

The Garrison Major, McDonald, writes me, will be at the Falls this Night, send him a Chain (Iron), some Rope, 8 Buckets, &c., &c., &c. The Carpenters hard at Work on the Craft.

Friday, June 30th. Mr. Fonley and others arrived with seven Craft, most of them 30 days on the way. We were then reduced to six days' Provision, and they brought up only three Barrels of Pork and fifteen Barrels Flour, a great deal of which was damaged. The Mortality and great Sickness of the Soldiery gives me much uneasiness; the Officers also very low for want of proper Nourishment.

Saturday, July 1st. All hands at Work in preparing to get forward, but things move slowly.

Sunday, July 2d. Hardly a doubt but the Rains are

set in, having Showers daily, but it does not fall in such quantities as to raise the Waters much.

Monday, July 3d. Capt. Collins arrived from the Harbour with 4¾ Barrels Pork, a seasonable supply, though our stock is still very low, having not more than Nineteen days' provisions.

This Evening the Detachments of 60th. and 79th. moved up to the River under the Command of Captain Davis, of the Jamaica Volunteers, not having one Officer of 60th. or 79th. fit for duty. They Proceed to the Flat Boat and remain with her till my arrival.

Tuesday, July 4th. Much rain in the morning, which prevented our Work going forward.

Wednesday, July 5th. The Troops ordered to Embark at 6, morning; but the Boats were not ready to receive them. The carelessness of all Departments and inattention to duty is the cause of great destruction of Stores, being suffered to lie in the Rain and Water for Weeks, and even the heads of Departments either do not know their duty or will not do it, for they take no Notice of these things; and if you Ask the Reason, they have no Men to remove them with, and are too lazy to ask for Assistance or the Climate has such an Effect upon them as to destroy all Exertion.

Memorandum for Captain Despard, left in the Command of the Castle.

To Employ the Convalescents as soon as possible in making Musket Cartridges which are much wanted. To collect as many Convalescents (Boatmen) as will Navigate the Royal George to the Harbour. The Repairs She may require for the purpose trifling and may be fitted by the Carpenters in a few hours. She will take as many Sick as possible, and such Officers as may remain who have leave to go to the Harbour. If Necessary, one Man to Conduct her through the Falls will answer the purpose; the Soldiers to row if no others to be had; your consumption of Provisions will be essened by it.

No Work will be done by the Carpenters if not Superintended by an Officer. The Ditch round the Castle to be cleaned, and the Soldiers prevented from throwing filth but in the Common Sewer.

The Smiths are likewise to be attended to when Employed; some coal lately burnt should be taken care of. The Spanish Women and Men Prisoners to be employed at your discretion, but not to be subject to the Orders of every Person. They bring Water for the use of the Troops in the Castle Morning and Evening.

Your Provisions should be attended to, and if Supplies do not come in time, the Allowance to be diminished, and some Indian Corn given to make up the difference, of which there is a quantity in the Castle, but even that must be managed.

A Pitpan is left you to send down the Falls when Craft arrive, but you may have some Barrels brought with more dispatch, and to be forwarded to me without delay.

If it is possible for you to repair the Roofs of the different Apartments in the Castle, you will be doing a most desirable thing, either with Tile, Boards, or any other way in your power.

The Troops to go up the River, ordered to embark to-morrow morning. The weather very Close, and Rains more frequent. Lieut. Charlton, 60th.; Lieut. Cook, Irish Volunteers; Lieut. Tassart and Ensign Wilcox, Legion; Doctors Gallagher and Barns, with thirty-nine Sick Men, left this for the Harbour about 2 o'Clock, as also Ensign Vernon.

Thursday, July 6th. Sir Alexander Leith arrived from the Harbour, about 10 o'Clock, very ill of a Fever. Heavy Rains this day. Lieut. Haldimand, of 60th., died this Evening. The Troops ordered to Embark to-morrow.

Friday, July 7th. The Troops sailed up the River though the day was very unfavourable, the Rains continuing with heavy showers; about 250 Soldiers

Embarked, but one hundred of them useless, being Convalescents in a weakly state.

Saturday, July 8th. Embarked early this day, leaving Sir Alexander Leith in the Command of the Troops at the Castle, with Capt. Dixon and Despard. About half after 8 morning found the Provision Boat and Commissary, with the Convalescent boat of L. I. C., at the advanced Post, who could get no further, being weakly Manned and the current strong. The Artillery boat a little higher not able to get on. About two and an half Miles we passed a Creek on the right hand, called Santa Cruzo ; 7 Miles up there is a Plantain Walk which the Indians higher up clear at times ; these Indians are of the Rama Tribe. A Mile and an half further we passed another Creek called Poco Sol, the Current increasing to the foot of the Rapids. The Rapid is about half a Mile through, but the Water above it, for a Mile more, almost as strong as the Rapid itself. About half after two reached the Germain, leaving most of the Craft at the foot of the Rapids, and to my great surprise found She had only that day got over them, owing to her grounding some days prior, from whence she was Extricated on the Night of the *7th.* by a flood, or She would have remained there time out of Mind, though all her Guns, &c., were taken out. This Afternoon and night it rained with great Violence, so much so to prevent the Troops from kindling fires and they suffered much. A Craft, with 25 or 30 Convalescents of Loyal Irish Corps could not get higher than the look out about a Mile above the Castle, and returned to it, never joining us. This Night was the most uncomfortable one I had experienced and fatigued me much.

Sunday, July 9th. Pushed forward this morning early, and, at half a Mile distance passed through two Islands, between which the Water runs with extreme force. We then quitted that Shore and went to the opposite one, gaining it at a point opposite to which there is a creek called Savan, upon which there are abundance of Plantain Walks and some Indian Settle-

ments of the Rama Tribe. The River has but little current here, and after Paddling about a Mile crossed to a Spanish Encampment, which was afterwards called Kemble's Camp. There I remained to wait for the Troops, and ordered the Boatmen, &c., to dry their Clothes. The Hospital Boat arrived about two o'Clock. Col. Polson, Lieut. Plees, Capt. Sheldon, Capt. Lamb, Lieut. Fahy, Capt. McDonald, Lieut. Craskell, Lieut. Morrison, Gun Boat, Quarter Master Mackay, with Col. Dalrymple's Baggage, two Pitpans, with three Barrels of flour and some Pork, succeeded. The day very fine, and I ordered the Troops to dry their Clothes, &c. Sent my Hunter out, who returned with success. Went to bed early and made up for last Night's fatigue.

Monday, July 10th. Sent my Hunter out, who returned with four Monkeys, which were distributed to the Officers, and are very good Eating; at least we thought so, and conquered all prejudice.

The Germain passed us about this day with a fine fair Wind, which pushed her up about 7 Miles, where I ordered her to remain. Capt. Davis, Irish Volunteers, came up this Evening with a large Spanish Craft. The Commissary arrived in a Dorey about same time with some Provisions. Went this afternoon to see the State of the Boats below. This day has been fair and pleasant. Sent Capt. Collins, with spare hands, to assist the Craft.

Tuesday, July 11th. The Artillery Boat arrived this morning, and two large Craft about Noon. Gave the Surgeon-General orders to collect the Sick Officers and Men and send them to the Castle. Lieut. Colbourn and Quarter Master McKay, of Legion, with about 7 Men, were sent upon this occasion. Four days' Provisions issued this day at short allowance, and astonished to receive a Report from the Commissary that there is scarcely two days' left. Sent a Pitpan instantly to the Castle for more, having left a large Pitpan, previous to my departure, to be sent on that Service from the Castle to the Falls. A false Account this day that Provisions

were arrived at Falls ; loss of Ammunition, want of Provisions, Sickness, &c., distract me.

Received Account this day from Mr. Shaw, at the Harbour, painting the extremest distress of all Ranks of People, reporting the return of the Monarch Flag truce ship, and that it was utterly impossible to send any of the Troops away, for want of men to Navigate the Transports ; proposing to man them from the Batteaux Men, not to be granted in our situation ; that large supplies had come from Jamaica of every thing wrote for, and I must acknowledge Gen. Dalling's attention has been great.

Wednesday, July 12th. Frequent showers of Rain this whole day. Col. Dalrymple returned from the Germain sick this day, proceeded to the Castle, from whence he went to the Harbour. Want of Provisions detain me here (Kemble's Camp). Want of order and the cause of it. Want of Proper Officers in the Different Departments, no aid or assistance to be had from any of them, and, what is Worse, not one of them know their duty. Should an Expedition be undertaken in this part of the work, hereafter, the Officer who is to Command should take warning and read my History, and should, above all, provide himself with Craft and Negroes in abundance, no other people being able to stand the Climate, and, above all things, to guard against his Stores being spoiled by the Weather, by covering them with Tarpaulings. Casks are worm-eaten and the liquor runs out in the course of ten days.

Thursday, July 13th. Violent Rains for the most part of this forenoon ; a Pitpan arrived and brought only a Puncheon of Rum, no Provisions having arrived at the Castle ; a most mortifying disappointment, but our Soldiers hear it with patience and fortitude. The Troops at the Castle two days without any Provision.

Friday, July 14th. A Violent Rain all the preceding night ; every Soul wet in Camp. Went to Visit the Germain this morning, seven Miles up the River, taking Provisions with me for those on board ; we were two

hours and three quarters going up in a Dorey with six Paddles. The lands low both sides of the River, sent out some Men of each Corps to hunt, having got some shell shot from the Castle. These Hunters brought sufficient to make Soup for the Sick, and a small proportion to the Soldiers in general. My uneasiness much increased from the prospect of a total want of Provisions, being run very short indeed.

Saturday, July 15th. Went up the river this morning to look for Game with the Quarter Master General; determined to remove the Encampment, the ground we were then on being rather low and wet from the great quantity of Rain that had fallen; found a spot proper for the purpose about a Mile and an half up. About four o'Clock we discovered the Pitpan, to our great joy, but vastly disappointed to find She had only Indian Corn in, and that Weavely. Major McDonald, Captain Davis, and Doctor Watson came down this Afternoon from the Germain; Captain Davis had returned that morning from viewing the Enemy's Works at the head of the River, informs me that the Vessels were almost in the same Position, the Sloop having only fallen a little lower down into the Mouth of the River; That they were at work a little below the Redoubt, and near the Water,—he supposed to defend a landing.

Sunday, July 16th. About ten this morning arrived at New Encampment (called Polson's), situated on a Point; is high and dry upon East side of the River. Went down in a Pitpan, dispatched for Provisions, six Sick Soldiers.

Monday, July 17th. A Pitpan arrived this Evening with three Barrels flour and one of Pork, the same should have come from the Castle two days before, but by the Drunkenness of the hands was carried below the Rapids and a Corporal drowned. This supply far short of what was necessary to enable me to proceed up the River, and served only to Victual the Troops for *18th.* and *19th.* at 4 Ounces of Pork, 6 Flour, and a pint of Corn; for *20th.* 2½ ounces Pork, and 9 ounces Flour and half a pint Corn; impossible to proceed with this small

supply. Smart Showers all Night, and some in the day.

Tuesday, July 18th. My impatience for Provisions and desire of knowing the State of Affairs in their true light induce me to send Captain Polson to the Castle. Went to the Germain this morning; carried Flour and Pork for the Crew; the Weather fair and pleasant; Major Mac Donald, Captain Davis, and Captain Collins, whom I sent up, gone in Search of Plantains, &c., to Morilio Creek, said to be about five Miles forward. The Germain lies near a large Creek on her right, and a point ahead, which covers her in some measure; returned to the Encampment about 2 o'Clock.

About 2 o'Clock a Pitpan arrived from the Castle with 3 Barrels Powder and some Cordage.

Lieut. Fahy and Davis, and Ensign Plees, of 60th., Sick; the only Officers of that Corps on this Service. Ensign Craskel, of Loyal Irish, the only Officer of his Corps fit for duty.

Captain Thomson and Lieutenant Morris the only officers with the Legion, and both sick. Major Mac Donald and Captain Mac Donald unwell; the latter and Ensign Turner only doing duty at present; from the above we have only four or five half Starved Emaciated Officers to do duty, and the Soldiers falling down fast.

Wednesday, July 19th. Informed of two (esteemed trusty men from Curasoa) having deserted from the Germain; they were sent hunting, but imprudently on the wrong side of the River, though I warned Major Mac Donald against it, and that the Hunters should come two or three Miles below the Vessel; it rained incessantly all day.

Thursday, July 20th. Major Mac Donald and Captain Davis came to me this day with the following Account, that they left the Germain on the morning of the *18th.* with Captain Collins, in quest of Morilio Creek, some Miles up which they have to go for Plantains; that after rowing some time, and, as the Major thought, as far as the Creek ought to be, he questioned a Spanish

Prisoner, who promised to guide, and pretended to know it if they were not near; who answered it was still higher, and so on till he brought them to the Island just below the Spanish Post, which Captain Davis knew perfectly well; and they were then convinced the fellow meant to betray them; however, as he had gone so far, he waited till Night, and went softly up the side of the River till he came within a small distance of the Spanish Vessels; could hear them talk, and the Boats row them to the Shore; returned to the Island, from the upper end of which he had a distinct view in the morning of the Redoubt and Vessels, &c., and proposed to me the attempting the Vessels by surprise, which Idea I had entertained, and, coming from those I thought understood Sea Affairs better than myself, instantly entered into, and determined to make an attempt upon the Vessels.

Friday, July 21st. Dispatched Capt. Davis to the Castle for some necessary materials for the attack of the Vessels, who returned in the Evening with a Dorey taken from three Indians he met just below my Encampment, who, upon seeing him, fled into the Wood; he brought off their Canoe, with some bows, Arrows, Plantains, &c., and returned on his way back to the Castle. A Report of a Cannon being heard about Sun set towards the Castle, the Novelty of it, and affirmation of an Officer that he had heard two or three more, induced me to send Capt. Lamb to the Creek before my Encampment to see if anything was to be learned, and endeavour to come at the speech of these Indians, who, I did not doubt, come down the Creek near it, to offer them their Canoe and all their effects if they would come and speak with me, as I wished to conciliate their affections, and get them, by Presents, to procure or assist me to procure Intelligence of the Spanish Post, &c. Capt. Lamb returned about 11 at Night with three Spanish Deserters from the Legion, and the following Account, that after he had got below my encampment a little way he saw a fire, rowed Gently to it, landed and got near, when he was chal-

lenged in Spanish, answered, in same tongue that he was their friend, went up and took them. The Indians fled again, nor could be prevailed on to come near. The three Spaniards had deserted from the Castle about three Weeks before, and in their way up the Creek met with these Indians, with whom they had been ever since, and had prevailed on them to carry them to the Spanish Post, where they were going when they were met by Capt. Davis. All last Night and this day heavy Rains.

Saturday, July 22d. Concluding that the want of a Person to speak the Rama Language had deterred these Indians from speaking to Capt. Lamb, I sent him again with my Indian, a Rama, but they were not to be found. Capt. Polson returned this morning with five Barrels Pork, one of Herrings, and three of Flour, with one Puncheon of Rum, all that I had a right to expect for some time (which, on calculation, would only serve seven or eight days at short allowance), acquainting me that the 2d. Division of Craft was Not even heard of, though to follow the first in a day or two and one of the first missing. Gave Mr. Welch immediate orders to Collect the Sick and to send them down the next morning, intending to proceed to the Enemy's Post as soon as possible and try my fortune, as no time was to be spared. It rained all Night. Ordered the Men's Arms, &c, to be examined next day at ten, and two days' Provisions to be issued.

Doctor's Return as follows:—60th. Regiment.—Lieut. Davis, Ensign Plees, 11 Rank and File; 79th. Regiment, 5 Rank and File; Loyal Irish Corps, 16 Rank and File; Legion.—Ensign De Nap and Taffe, 16 Rank and File; Jamaica Volunteers.—Lieut. McLean, 4 Rank and File; Artillery.—Commissary Jones, 1 Rank and File. Total, 59.

It rained a good part of this Night.

Sunday, July 23d. Lieut. Despard, Engineer, who came up Yesterday and joined me with Capt. Polson, was dispatched this afternoon to reconnoiter the

Spanish Post and bring me the best intelligence in his power of the Post, &c. that I might at least form an Attack upon the Vessels. The Soldiers much distressed and scarcely able to crawl for want of Shoes and Stockings. By a Return this day, only 74 Rank and File actually fit for Duty, and not above three Officers for service, even those little better than Convalescents.

Monday, July 24th. Proceeded this morning up the River, with a view to go on; passed the Germain about 11 morning, and Encamped about 2 Mile a head of her, the wind not permitting her to come forward. My new Camp I called Dalling's Point. Nearly opposite to where the Germain lay are two Creeks, one on the right and one on the left. A little a head of her is also an Island, which I called Germain Island. Some distance up we met with another Island, keeping it on our right, which from its length we called Long Island, abreast of the upper end of which, and on the left hand, is Dalling's Point, my *ne plus*. I waited here till half-past two before any of the Boats arrived, but the whole were up an hour before Sun set. Issued an order for the Troops to receive and have two days' Provisions cooked that Night, and that no fires were to be made after that Evening till dark, and put out by 10 Night; but the Provision Boat not arriving till the last, that could with difficulty be done. My hopes were to surprise the Vessels, as I imagined we were undiscovered till that time; but Lieut. Despard arrived in the Evening with the following Information, that he proceeded on the Night of the *23d.* to the Island just below the Enemy's Post, and had time to Reconnoitre it in the morning. His own account as follows:

St. John's Castle, 27th. July, 1780.

Sir,

Conformable to your Instructions to me on the *23d.* inst., I have reconnoitered the Spanish Post at the head of St. John's River, of which the following is as accurate a description as the distance of the Ground from whence I observed it will permit me to give.

This Post consists of a short range of Hill, running nearly in a North and South direction, and forming the North Point of the Outlet of the Lake Nicaragua, and the head of St. John's River. Here the Spaniards have Erected a Strong Redoubt of an Oblong figure, the entrance of which is covered by a Redan, and presents one front to the Entrance of the Lake, another down the River, a third towards the Lake, and a fourth towards the North extremity of the Ridge, which is still covered with Trees. The Fort, including the Redan, has about one hundred and fifty yards interior Parapet, and is capable of containing between two and three hundred Men.

The entrance into the Lake is further defended by two Armed Vessels Moored across it, the one a Sloop, the other a Schooner, which, from the narrowness of the Channel in this place, are under the Protection of even the Musketry of the Redoubt.

The Attack of the Redoubt from the River must be very disadvantageous to the Assailants, The declivity of the Hill, or the Glacis of the Work being extremely steep, and the access thereto from the Bank of the River rendered very difficult by a strong Abattis, which covers the whole space of Ground between, from the Edge of the River to the foot of the Hill.

Though I could not discover Cannon in the Work, there is great reason, from the importance as well as particular Situation of the Post, to conclude there are Cannon in it; and what adds farther weight to this opinion is, a Triangle Gin being erected opposite to the passage into the Redoubt.

I saw likewise a large Lighter, and four or five Perriagues, besides Six or Eight Canoes or Doreys, all of which appeared to be constantly employed between the Vessels and the Point.

I am Sir,

Your most obedt. Humble Servt.,

(Signed) E. M. Despard,

Chief Engineer.

Mr. Despard was discovered by a Scout Boat of the Enemies, or, rather, improperly discovered himself when not in a condition to take them; they got off, and of course the Alarm given.

The Result of which was a determination to return, and preserve the Castle, by sending off all the Troops without delay except the intended Garrison. First the Troops were and had been half starved, reduced to Seventy fit to mount Guard, but not able to undergo six hours' fatigue, without Shoe or Stocking, their limbs swelled to an enormous size, and fountains of water issuing out of them from their Legs, feet, and thighs, attended with fluxes. Second, I flattered myself, with the men I had at first setting out, I might have made some impression on the Enemy, and Loth to quit the pursuit; and had I been supplied with Provisions, as I had reason to expect from Sir Alexander Leith's assurances, in his first coming up, that there were one hundred and thirty Barrels on the way. Men lying without Tents—for we had none—could not stand it, and at half Allowance of Provisions. Thirdly, If I had accomplished a landing, the Troops were not in Strength or health enough to have Erected Batteries and drawn up Cannon; and to Attack even Slaves and Indians well covered and fortified with Cannon, and within a Redoubt, with a fourth of their Numbers, by Escalade or Storm, would have been very hazardous, and the Issue of a Repulse, the loss of the Castle, which we never could have kept. Myself ill with a burning fever at same time, Major McDonald the only Officer with me down with a Ague, and much reduced, and Colonel Dalrymple gone some days before to the Castle, ill.

Tuesday, July 25th. Returned to the Castle with the Troops, leaving the Germain to follow; found Captain Davis at the Rapids, not being able to get forward with a heavy-loaded Craft with materials for the better putting in Execution the intended attempt on the Enemy's Vessels. A Circumstance occurred to

me, also, which our Seamen had not thought of, which was that we had not boats proper to steal Silently upon the Enemy's Vessels; Pitpans only proper, and of those we had but two; Craft were not possible to be brought Silently above them, which was necessary; and to fall down on them again, they must row, and an Alarm inevitable, nor could we promise ourselves any success but by surprise. My fever lasted me all this day, nor was I able to get out of my Boat till the next morning, when I had my Tent pitched.

Wednesday, July 26th. Return of Sick to be sent to the Castle:

60th. Regiment, Lieut. Fahy	38
79th. Regiment, Ensign Trisler	62
Loyal Irish Corps	50
Jamaica Legion, Lieut. Morris	23
Jamaica Volunteers	18
Crew of the Germain	4
Batteaux Men	20
Total	215 Men.

The Troops having lived on Corn for some days, which not agreeing with them, they die very fast, burying from 6 to 8 a day; such distress is not to be conceived. The first Division of sick went to the Harbour this day with Lieut. Fahy.

Thursday, July 27th. My Fever is abated, but my mind tortured with the situation of affairs; find great difficulty in getting 150 Men well enough to remain in Garrison, many of whom have sore legs, and are lame for want of Shoes. Another Division of Sick went off this day. Major MacDonald arrived ill from the Germain this afternoon, and reported her being got below the Rapids with great difficulty.

The Troops on 6 ounces Pork and one quart of Corn.

Friday, July 28th. Twelve sick went down this morning in Sir Alexander Leith's boat; sent for his

Baggage, as he was to remain to Command at the Castle.

When I was up the River I recommended it to Sir Alexander by Letter to send a Pitpan with some good hands down the River, who should be ordered not to return till they met with Craft, and to hurry back with Provision taken out of them, which Order Sir Alexander told me he had given; but the Pitpan returned this day, with some Carpenters from below the Falls, who had been there some days, and were without Provision, and could Advance with the Craft no further. Thunderstruck with this, I immediately sent for Captain Lamb, whose assiduity I could depend on, and ordered him off, and not to return without bringing some Flour, if he went to the Harbour; told him the Garrison and Castle could only be preserved by his dispatch.

Saturday, July 29th. & 30th. Employed in framing Instructions for Sir Alexander Leith, &c.

Monday, July 31st. Delivered Sir Alexander Leith his Instructions, and set off on my Return to the Harbour about 12 o'Clock, and stayed at the lookout Island that Night; wrote Sir Alexander from thence that there were three Spanish Craft there that ought to be brought to the Castle for the purpose of conveying heavy Stores to the Harbour. Ten days' provisions in Pork and Indian Corn left for the Garrison, at 6 ounces Pork and one quart Corn per Man.

Tuesday, August 1st. Left the lookout early; passed the first fall with Rapidity, the Waters Running Violently, but were deep; the 2d. Shoaly, and we struck, though in a Dorey that did not draw above one foot Water, but were soon disengaged. Here we saw the Royal George, a large Craft, left on the Rocks. She went from the Castle on the *28th.* with forty Sick men, all of whom had got on Shore, the Majority of them to the Creek below the Falls, but nine left in the Woods so weak and feeble that they could not walk that distance, one of whom called to us from the

Shore. I went and took him in, almost famished. A Soldier of 60th. proceeded to the Creek, and there was informed by the Carpenters and a Serjeant of the 79th., who commanded the Royal George, that they had sent two Negroes for the poor wretches in the Wood, but they were so weak that they could only tell them where they were, were without Provision except a little Corn given by Captain Lamb and Major MacDonald. To preserve these poor People I ordered them some Corn and Pork, quit my own Boat and sent it up with my hands to fetch the poor Creatures out of the Wood; went into Captain Polson's boat and pushed on, leaving directions for all the Boats to follow me to Costa Rica River, just below the still Water, where they joined me next morning; gave them Provisions and Rum, and then pursued my Course.

Wednesday, August 2d. Set out about seven; fine day; keeping the left hand Shore to see the junction of the Nicaragua and St. John's, which we found about two o'Clock; it has but a small, blind opening, and in dry Weather but little Water. However, at this Season it may be passed with Craft, and is about 30 Miles from the Harbour, though it will require some opening by cutting away Logs, &c., with which it is clogged. This River joins the St. John's about seven miles above Cook's Post. Here I met Captain Lamb, who informed me that he had been obliged to go to Cook's Post and had six Barrels Flour, his hands weak, and wanted Paddles; I gave him one. He also informed me that no part of Sir Alexander Leith's second Division were on their way; got to Cook's Post about 3 o'Clock, and remained for the Night; Received General Dalling's and other Dispatches there.

Thursday, August 3d. Sent off Sir Alexander's Boat which had returned from the Harbour with 8 Barrels Pork, his Baggage being some of it lost in the Horatio; One Pitpan, one Canoe and two small Boats dispatched at same time, carrying 21 Barrels Flour, 4

Pork and 12 firkins of Butter, all well manned, and would get up in good time; proceeded for the Harbour about 3 o'Clock. About a Mile below this the Colorado branch runs to the Sea and empties itself near a place called Turtle Bogue; about fourteen Miles below this the St. John's branch, so called, runs to the Sea; from this to where you join the Nicaragua again, about two miles, it's very narrow, Rapid and full of dangerous Stumps and Logs of Wood; where you make the opening of the Nicaragua branch, it's spacious and pleasing to the Eye, nor is it to be wondered if People mistake it for the proper River, and its easy flowing Waters invite you from this to the Harbour, about one and a half Miles, where we arrived about half past 2 o'Clock, and, understanding Mr. Cairnes was gone, went immediately to his Huts, as the only place of Refuge, and found Mr. Shaw, Major MacDonald, &c., at Dinner, with whom I made a hearty Meal. I then understood that several of our Boats had taken the Colorado branch; one, in which Lieut. Fahy of 60th. was in, was two days and Nights at Sea, but fortunately got to the Harbour. Captains MacDonald and Davis had taken the St. John's and walked from the head of the Harbour to the Point where our Redoubt and hospital is, leaving their Boat near the Sea, which I sent for, with Provisions for the People; and they, Boat and all, joined us two days after. The sure and certain Passage to St. John's Castle may be made by leaving the Nicaragua branch, the first you meet with on your right going up about a Mile and half from the Harbour; after passing that you keep the right hand course all the way, and have nothing to put you out but where the Nicaragua and St. John's join, seven Miles above Cook's, that is about 23 from the Harbour, and from thence you keep all the way to the Castle the Right hand Passage; on the Contrary in coming down, by keeping all the way to the left, you have nothing to put you out but the Nicaragua branch above Cook's Post, and that's so blind and

small that none but those who sought for a mistake could make one.

Friday, August 4th. Understanding the Pelican and Hinchenbroke were to Sail the next Morning for Jamaica, I sent Major MacDonald to request Captain Forster of the Diamond to detain them one day, which was granted, as I had Dispatches of Consequence to write, the whole of this day taken up in that business.

Saturday, August 5th. Went to Visit the Redoubt and see the State of Matters on that side; find the Redoubt much as I had left it, and the Sick in a Miserable, shocking condition, without any one to attend them, or even to bury the Dead who lay on the beach shocking to behold; the same mortality raging among the poor Soldiers on board ship, where Accumulated filth had made all air Putrid; officers dying daily, and so wore down with disorders, lassitude, &c., that they are even as filthy and regardless where they lay as the Soldiers, never stirring from their Beds for days, though they might walk. I immediately ordered a Hut to be erected for the Hospital Surgeons, and Medicines, and Huts to be built for the Troops on the Northeast Shore, that they may be landed and the Vessels Cleansed. Letters from Captain Thompson of Black River Company, whom I had ordered to the Harbour from the Castle as a proper person to superintend loading of Craft and collecting hands, complaining of Sir Alexander Leith's behaviour to him, that he would not allow him to interfere in the business, which was improperly conducted, and not half so much Provision sent up as might have been, much on the same Subject from Mr. Shaw of the general strange behaviour of Officers who have Commanded from time to time; in short, that everything has been in a state of Confusion, and nothing but Anarchy and distress reigning. It is certain Sir Alexander might have disposed of his Boats to much more advantage, those that came up to us having from 13 to 23 hands when 9 and 10 to twelve would have served the

largest Craft; some of the small Boats he brought down were lent to Officers of the Navy and best lost, others destroyed and so forth.

Wine and Rum given the Officers of the Navy by his order from the Public Stores unnecessarily.

Sunday, August 6th. Doctor Welch taken extremely ill; a great loss, as all our Hospital Arrangements must be at a stand.

Monday, August 7th. All remain in the same languid state; give orders for the Spanish Prisoners to be sent off as soon as possible, the Ship nearly ready; find the Agent almost as Ignorant as when I left him, and at variance with Mr. Shaw, the only Person who could give him any advice; the Horatio sunk, the Venus in a bad condition, and like for a similar fate; repairs wanting to all the Vessels, and nobody to do it with.

Tuesday, August 8th. Huts go on better; Captain Park, who returned from Sea on the *5th.*, having undertaken to put them forward with some Negroes he was carrying to Bluefields to build the Huts there.

Wednesday, August 9th. Pushing a Pitpan off, but find difficulty in getting hands even for so small a Craft.

Thursday, August 10th. Sir Alexander Leith arrived from the Castle, which he left in distress for Provisions, ordering upwards of 80 Men of the Garrison to follow him with Doctor Dancer, his first answer that they were sick; but when I observed to him the impropriety of bringing away Men as well as I left them and the best we had, he answered it was on Account of lessening the Consumption of Provisions. He also said he had ordered the Germain to the Castle, for want of men to keep her detached. He is in ill health, and goes to Jamaica by first opportunity.

Friday, August 11th. The Pitpan Manned and to proceed to-morrow with Coffee, Tea, Sugar, and Rum for the Troops; can't get the Flag of Truce Ship off.

Saturday, August 12th. The Boats arrived with

Doctor Dancer and about 80 Sick from the Castle, as well as Captain Patterson, who is appointed Superintendent of Crafts. The Pitpan went away this day.

Sunday, August 13th. Order Captain Patterson, Agent, and Captain Polson, Quarter Master General, to get Craft ready for going up with Provisions, as I perceive Sir Alexander has brought down all or most of the Craft, particularly the Spanish, which I left on purpose to bring away the heavy Stores, and am much distressed at it; but it is like his other ill-conceived steps.

Monday, August 14th. Captain Lamb came down from the Castle in the Chiquita, bringing with him 18 more Men, and the two British three pounders with their Carriages, and he left the Castle the *12th.* Proposes my giving him an order to Command on the Shore; refused.*

Tuesday, August 15th. Sir Alexander Leith left this for Pearl key Lagoon, intending to take the first favourable opportunity of getting to Jamaica; still pressing the getting Craft off, but meet with little Assistance. Captain Polson's ill health and an apparent decay of Intellect render him of little use—indeed, he is so confined in ideas, and so afraid of doing wrong that he does nothing.

Wednesday, August 16th. Notwithstanding my repeated directions to get the Hasser of the Horatio ready, it's this morning to be got from the Ship, a day lost. This Craft will carry four 60 Gallon Casks of Rum and Six Barrels Pork.

Captain Forster, of his Majesty's Ship Diamond, died on the Night of the *12th.*, succeeded in Command of Ship by his first Lieut. Mr. Jordan.

Carpenters Employed in repairing the Sloop St. John, that she may take the Venus' Stores out. Doc-

* Note made *February 17th., 1781.* About the *13th. August* Sir Alexander Leith asked me to give him a power to Command on the Mosquito Shore, which I refused, convinced that he would confuse matters, the delirium he had long labored under remaining with him, and evident signs of Madness to be discovered every moment.

tor Welch much better, and a fair prospect of his recovery, which was doubtful some days ago. The Situation and Affairs of the Hospital I hope will soon mend, and be put under proper regulation, by his attention and Inspection. The Spanish Flag Truce Ship Monarch sailed this day.

Thursday, August 17th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Friday, August 18th. Not till this day only did the Craft with the Hasser for the Germain, 6 Barrels Pork, and 4 Barrels Rum proceed up the River. Arrived a Craft with Serjeant Major L. I. C. and a few Men with three Spanish Prisoners, two belonging to Legion and one Indian, to what purpose the latter sent down I can't devise; they have scarcely a Craft left at the Castle. How the Commanding Officer could think of leaving himself so bare of Boats, I can't comprehend, and fear it is in consequence of Sir Alexander Leith's Orders; if so, no Action of his since he came to St. John's Harbour but has tended to distress the Service. Also four Brass field pieces.

The following Intelligence received from Francisco Yore, a Spanish Negro, who had been sent from the Spanish Post at the head of St. John's River, with three others, to make what discoveries they could of things going on at the Castle, and taken the *10th. August*, 1780.

St. John's Harbour, *12th Aug.*, 1780.

Question 1st.—How distant Nicaragua was from the South Sea, &c., &c., &c. What the general face of the Country, whether any Bay or Harbour or the South Sea where Ships may ride, what Trade, and if healthy.

Answer.—14 Leagues from Granada, and 8 from Nicaragua: the first a very Hilly Country, and Inhabited; the latter plain Country, only one Hill near the Centre of the distance, not any Inhabitants, the Roads bad and only used by Mules and horses; no fortification on either. No Port on the South Sea, nor any

Trade carried on from that Quarter, that he knows of. He was then making Salt, and very unhealthy.

Question 2d.—In what months the Rains commence and when cease on the Lake and in the Towns, as well as on the South Sea Coast.

Answer.—The Rains commence in general about that whole Country in the beginning of May, and end in November; September and October the worst Months.

Question 3d.—What small Towns on the Lake of Nicaragua, by whom Settled, what Roads lead from them, and where to?

Answer.—To small Villages called Manawa and Massaya, only that he knows of. Massaya four Leagues from Granada, and seven from Nicaragua. Manawa six Leagues from Granada, and eight from Nicaragua. The Roads to and from the Villages to the greater Towns very good, and travelled by carriages of all sorts, but nothing better than Mule Paths into the Country, which abounds in Cattle; Mixed Inhabitants in both the Villages, as is general through the Country.

Question 4th.—Whether a Military or any other Road from Carataga to the Lake, except which leads to Nicaragua and Granada (which Towns are about seven Leagues distant one from the other) from whence the Castle was supplied with Provisions, and by what Route, and the Nature of the Country on the Borders of the Lake.

Answer.—He knows of no road except that from Carataga to Nicaragua. The Castle supplied solely from Granada, by the Lake and River St. John's. The Country on the borders of the Lake low, and in general like that of this Harbour.

Question 5th.—The extent, situation, and form of the Post at the Lake, whether Swampy round it, and how it may be turned. What Cannon in it, from whence they came, and if Mounted; what number of men, Whites, black, and People of Colour; of what

Materials the Redoubt is made, if Abattied round, by whom Commanded, and how Armed (the Troops).

Answer.—He supposes about 500 Yards in Circumference, stands upon a Hill, but not so high as the Castle but much the same distance from the Waters; have opened the Woods on the River side to the verge of the Swamp. The form of the Redoubt a square with four Bastions, cannot be turned or approached, the Swamp or Woods running all around to the Lake, where there is only a Beach like this, fourteen Cannon in it, 12 mounted, two 12 pounders and ten 8 pounders, four in the face looking to the River over the cleared ground, two to the opposite side of the River where the Vessels lay, four to the Lake, and two into the Wood and along the Shore of the Lake; knows not where the Cannon came from. An Abattis round the whole Redoubt. Fifty Regular Troops all white, Three white and twelve Black Artillery Men. The rest composed of Blacks and People of Colour, amounting in the whole to about 500, and 150 Regulars daily expected, though from whence he does not know. About 100 Sick, and the place as unhealthy as the Castle. The manner of building the Redoubt as follows: a trench is dug about 12 feet wide, and Stakes drove in on each side, which is filled in with Stone, and so carried on to the top of the Parapet; the Embrasure slight and made in the same manner; the Stone for this purpose brought from the Islands, and the Work complete called St. Carlos, Don Whakun de Navos, Commandant. The Militia of all sorts Armed with Musketry. Houses built for the whole.

Question 6th.—What number of Vessels on the Lake, their force, by whom Commanded and how manned, whether any Craft Armed, and what Intelligence they have received of our Situation at the Castle.

Answer.—Two at the Redoubt, and two building; the two at the Mouth of the River have each one 12

and one 8 pounder, the Sloop 30, the Schooner 50 Men, all of Colour, Commanded by Biscayans, six Armed Craft with Swivels; no Intelligence of our Situation; all Deserters being examined by the Commandant, and immediately sent to Granada.

Question 7th.—Whether Granada or Nicaragua were fortified, when the fortifications were Erected, or if any Erecting there or on the Islands; how they were fed.

Answer.—Surrounding Granada with a breast Work and Ditch, Nicaragua not fortified nor intended that he knows of. No talk of fortifying the Islands. Fed on Indian Corn, Pease, Rice, Beef and Pork.

Black Tom's Account of Matina, &c., &c., &c.

Question 1st.—How far Craft can go up River Matina, where obliged to land, and distance from Caratага; whether any Communication with the Castle or St. John's River, by land from Caratага, Matina, or the immediate Country.

Answer.—Craft may go up the River from look out on the Sea Shore (generally 12 Men at it) to Berbea 20 Miles, where you land from thence to Parismanus bridge 25 Miles, one day's Mule walk, from Parismanus bridge to Caratага four days' march, or about 50 Miles in dry Weather, at which time the Road is passable with carriages. The River Suaree falls into the Sea about 3 leagues to the Northward of Matina, and Parismanus about two leagues to the Northward of that; Parismanus is said to run through Caratага, that a Creek leads into it below the falls, by which Traders have come down to the Sea. No communication with the Castle or St. John's River from Matina, Caratага or the intermediate Country. The River Matina, a dreadful unhealthy place. From Cape Gracias a Dios the Coast runs North and South to this Harbour, but from thence to Carthagena about East. This Harbour abounds in fish of the best, such as Mullets, Stone Bass, Jew fish, Turtle in Season, &c., &c., &c. The Country with Warree, Pickeree,

and Monkey, &c., and some Tigers, Quam, Curasoa, Pigeons, Partridge, &c., &c., &c.

Saturday, August 19th. Wood arrived in a Schooner from Bluefields with some Poultry, &c.

Sunday, August 20th. Nothing Extraordinary; Captain Park and his Huts go on but slowly. Joe Wood dispatched to Turtle Bogue for Turtle.

Sequel of question Asked Francisco Yore.

Question 1st.—What the produce of the Country round the Lake of Nicaragua, from whence the Inhabitants receive their supplies of European goods, how transported and what returns they make.

Answer.—Indigo, Cocoa, Cattle, &c., received all supplies of European goods and Wheat Flour from Guatemala, all carried by Mules, their Returns in three first Articles.

The distance from the head of the River to Granada three days' Sail with a fair Wind, or about 60 leagues; from Granada to Realejo three days' Walk, or about 45 Miles. Granada is supposed to have about six thousand Inhabitants, but this Account not to be depended upon.

Monday, August 21st. Arrived Ensign Cameron with a Craft and 8 full Barrels Pork; this Gentleman left the Harbour on the *26th. June*, got as far as the Costa Rica branch, which he took in mistake, and continued going up twenty-six days till he came to a fall which was impassable. His People sixteen in number, eleven of which he brought back, saw no traces of human feet, nor anything like a Settlement, but overgrown Plantain Walks, some of which they plucked. As to distance or answering any other Questions, he is perfectly at a loss. One of his People said they went (he supposed) 200 Miles up the River, another 26 only; the latter most like. Lieut. and Adjutant Campbell came this day from the Castle; left it the *15th.*, and was detained by getting on the Rocks in the Rapids.

Tuesday, August 22d. The Ship Venus reported to

be in so bad a state by the Agent that I think it necessary to order all her Stores to be taken out. Captain Wood returned from Turtle Bogue with 30 Turtle.

Wednesday, August 23d. All the boats that could be manned ordered to unload the Venus; her Provisions to be sent to the Point, on East side of the River. A Young Indian came this day from Carataga, left it fourteen days ago with 200 Men, with whom he came to Matina; he says they wanted him to Pilot them along the Coast, that they talked of Attacking the Harbour of St. John's, and that they were waiting for Shipping to take them on board to come from Carthagena, Porto Bello, &c. The Troops that came from Carataga had no Artillery with them. He left Matina about a week ago.

The hands to take two Craft up to the Castle, and who were to have been dispatched in the morning, were from necessity detained to assist in unloading the Venus.

Thursday, August 24th. and 25th. Weather so bad that no business could be done; engage Mr. Sam. Allen to go off Matina and bring me intelligence, if any ships in the harbours near it, their force, &c.

Saturday, August 26th. Informed this morning that a Craft loaded with 6 Barrels Pork and four 60 Gallon Casks of Rum intended to be sent to the Castle, having been let go adrift on Night of *24th.*, and supposed to be entirely lost; enquiry to be made into it, and Reason for its not being reported.

Sunday, August 27th. Two Craft under the direction of Ensign McNight, Legion set off for the Castle with Provision, order a Court Martial of the Line to Enquire into the loss of Craft, and to try Corporal of Guard.

Monday, August 28th and 29th. Nothing Extraordinary, but the arrival of the Kingston Packet from Jamaica.

Wednesday, August 30th. All quiet; Allen sent to Matina for Intelligence.

Thursday, August 31st. All quiet; Mr. Allen pro-

ceeded this Night to get Intelligence of what's passing at Matina.

Friday, Sept. 1st. The Packet (Kingston) Dispatched this Evening, and a Boat to the Castle under the direction of Captain Flynn.

Saturday, Sept. 2d. Nothing Extraordinary.

Sunday, Sept. 3d. Sloop Success returned into Port so leaky that She was obliged to be run on Shore.

Monday, Sept. 4th., 5th. and 6th. Nothing but the return of Allen the Pilot on *5th.*, with an Account that he had passed Matina, saw nothing new; Went into Salt Creek and Blanco points, saw no Traces of People having been there, nor any Shipping; naturally supposes the Indian came down from Carataga with Traders and Custom house officers, it being customary at this Season, being Crop time.

Thursday, Sept. 7th. Nothing new.

Friday, Sept. 8th. Packet Nicaragua Sailed in Evening.

Saturday, Sept. 9th. Nothing Extra, but inspect the Troops.

Monday, Sept. 11th. The Pelican and four Transports arrive at this place with Messrs. Irving, Stanford, Captain Clark, Rochat, and Engineer Campbell.

Tuesday, Sept. 12th. Order a Transport to be immediately prepared to remove the Sick to Bluefields, the Situation of the Bluff being recommended as healthy. St. Andreas too distant. Corn Islands no Shelter, and very Sickly just now. The Cape thought improper from number of Flies which infest the place. Tebuppy difficult to land at.

Wednesday, Sept. 13th. Captain Clark set off for the Castle. Mr. Campbell, Engineer, in another Boat with Provisions.

Thursday, Sept. 14th. In the Evening Captain Flynn returns from Castle, McNight only ten Miles above Cook's Post with one Boat.

Friday, Sept. 15th. Ship Hope and Brig Polly

Sailed for Bluefields. Receive Letters from Captain Dixon; the Castle dismantled of all its Guns, some sent to Harbour.

Saturday, Sept. 16th. Prepare to Embark, the Transport Betsy proving too leaky to go to Sea without being overhauled.

Sunday, Sept. 17th and 18th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Tuesday, Sept. 19th. Troops Embark; seven Miserable Soldiers die on being put on board Flora, Hospital Ship.

Wednesday, Sept. 20th. Vessels to be arranged, remain in Harbour.

Thursday, Sept. 21st. Sail with Sally and Flora, Transports for Bluefields, go myself with Captain Haynes in the Pelican, King's Ship, Embark 137 Rank and File, the miserable remains of Troops brought down by me and Captain Polson, except a few at the Castle.

Friday, Sept. 22d. and 23d. Nothing extraordinary; light Winds and driven with the Current off Turtle Bogue, and as far as Salt Creek.

Sunday, Sept. 24th. Chase a Sail; proves to be the Hope. She Sailed from St. John's for Bluefields on the *15th.*

Monday, Sept. 25th., 26th. and 27th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Thursday, Sept. 28th. Made St. Andreas, a small Island in Lat. 12.30.

Friday, Sept. 29th. Stood in for the Island; a Boat came off to us; find it is Inhabited by about 12 families who have settled there without any Authority. The Island is about 30 Miles in Circumference, is fruitful, and good sugars might be raised on it, though the present Inhabitants make no more than serves their own use, raise a little Cotton, have about 100 head of horned Cattle, and are Chiefly Mustees; no good harbour on this Island, though there are inlets for small Vessels very safe. This Island is full of Wood, and

the Cedar proper for Building Vessels; a Sloop now on the Stocks.

Saturday, Sept. 30th. Nothing Extraordinary. The Island close aboard, and Capt. Haynes got some Stock from the Shore.

Sunday, Oct. 1st. Island still in Sight. Contrary Winds. The Hope short of Water. Ordered to Steer for the Corn Islands.

Monday, Oct. 2d. Hope out of Sight. Bad Winds. Expect to make Corn Islands to-morrow. Taken with a fever on the *28th.*, *29th.*, and *30th.*; very ill; better *1st.* and *2d. Oct.*, though sorely afflicted with the prickly heat. Have no rest at night, and my head so much disordered as not capable of doing my business or writing these lines; very uneasy as I want much to write to Gen. Dalling, but cannot.

Tuesday, Oct. 3d. Stood for Corn Islands.

Wednesday, Oct. 4th. Landed on great Corn Island. Found Doctors Jameson and Davidson with a quantity of Medicine, &c. Order them to Embark on board the ——, Sloop, Capt. Bailey, and follow me to Bluefields as soon as possible.

Thursday, Oct. 5th. Sailed from great Corn Island, the lesser separated from it about nine Mile. This Island is entirely a Savanna; the Grass grows very luxuriantly; and has a few miserable inhabitants upon it, as has the greater Island which is covered with wood and would produce good sugars. These Islands lay in about Lat. 12 North.

Friday, Oct. 6th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Saturday, Oct. 7th. Anchored off Bluefields.

Sunday, Oct. 8th. Went on Shore in the morning. Found Capt. Davis in the Harbour, who left St. John's Harbour the *3d.* and got here the *6th.*, having Embarked all the Stores, Provisions, Artillery, &c., and dispatched the Provisions for Castle to Cook's Post. The Diamond was to have waited the return of the Pelican, Capt. Haynes, who intended to bring the second Division, but we had a very long and tedious

passage of eighteen days: but by some unlucky accident the Diamond and most of her convoys passed the Harbour at Bluefield in the Night, by which the Sloop St. John, loading with powder and some heavy Cannon, has unfortunately run upon one of the keys to windward. The Ship Hope still Missing. Went this Evening and lay on Shore at Capt. Collins's House; got my feet wet in a Boat; lay under a Shed; found the place very damp and Slept none.

Monday, Oct. 9th. Early in the morning came on board the Betsy. Unwell by 8 o'Clock. Was seized with an Ague. Doctor Sanderson reports the death of 57 out of 114 Embarked on board the Flora, Hospital Ship, and the crew near all down. Find Capt. Everett in a Sloop from Rattan with 52 Chosen Negroes for Service. Dispatched him to the assistance of the St. John and the Royal George, with Water, to Search for the Hope.

Tuesday, Oct. 10th. Fever intermitted.

Wednesday, Oct. 11th. A severe attack of the Fever and Ague. The Transport Seamen falling down very fast. Negroes employed on the Huts. The Tent Cloaths very insufficient, and keep out no water. Fresh Water very difficult to be got at for the Troops on the Hill.

Thursday, Oct. 12th. Pelican, Capt. Haynes, sailed for Jamaïca with my dispatches for Gen. Dalling. The Diamond supposed gone for Jamaica.

Friday, Oct. 13th. Nothing extraordinary.

Saturday, Oct. 14th. Nothing extraordinary but putting up Huts for the Hospital and Troops.

Sunday, Oct. 15th. Capt. Everett returned, having taken a quantity of things out of the St. John's Sloop, on Shore on one of the Pearl Keys. Out of 120 Barrels of Powder only 21 got out of her, and that damaged. No Account of the Hope; fear She is lost.

Monday, Oct. 16th. and 17th. Unloading Capt. Everett, that he may Sail as soon as possible to take the heavy Artillery out of the St. John, and save as many

other Stores as possible. Very much indisposed these two days past. Capt. Rochat, Deputy Quarter Master General, also ill.

Find from Capt. Everett that the Volunteer Seamen and some of the Carpenters took the St. John's Boat as soon as the Vessel was on Shore, and went to Pearl Key Lagoon, from whence they did not return till the week had expired, by which means the Master had it not in his power to get any of her Cargo out. Capt. M'Guire, of the Batteaux Corps, though present, did not exert himself to prevent any of these irregularities.

Wednesday, Oct. 18th. Lieut. Campbell, Engineer, arrived in thirteen days from the Castle, but brings nothing new. He saw a Pettyaugur and a canoe in the Harbour of St. John's, who went off on seeing him round the point and Steered to the Southward. Mr. Despard writes me that the Spaniards had taken possession of an Island in the River below their Post, but does not say what distance. Capt. Everett Sailed for Sloop St. John, having got a Long Boat, Blocks, &c., to weigh the 24 pounders.

Thursday, Oct. 19th. All hands Employed on the Huts; receive Letters for Gen. Dalling from Major Laurie by a Small Schooner from Black River, Capt. Hoy.

Friday, Oct. 20th. Capt. Everett returned from the St. John; the Weather bad and a great Surf prevented him from saving the 24 pounders; the Sloop parted and gone to pieces, saves some wheels and Gun Carriages. Capt. Patterson returns from Pearl Key Lagoon.

Saturday, Oct. 21st. Recovering from my Indisposition; hope to push things forward.

Sunday, Oct. 22d. Hospital Hut near finished.

Monday, Oct. 23d. Woods's Schooner Sailed in Search of the Hope; am miserable at receiving no Accounts of her, and the repeated Accidents that happen; it seems as if fortune intended all should go

wrong. Find the line of Huts not placed as I could wish.

Tuesday, Oct. 24th. & 25th. Strong Winds at West and North West, with frequent showers.

Thursday, Oct. 26th. & 27th. Winds same, with thick, Squally Weather; Rains increase.

Saturday, Oct. 28th. Capt. Muller arrived. Lieut. McKenzie arrived by land from the Kingston Packet, having left her at Monkey Point, where She was drove by bad Weather. Col. Irving set off for Bluefields River Falls, Winds at N. and N. E and N. W.; very bad Weather, with heavy Rains. A Violent Attack of the Ague and Fever.

Sunday, Oct. 29th. & 30th. Winds the same, with a Continuation of very bad Weather. The Soldiers in Camp ordered into the Hospital Hut.

Tuesday, Oct. 31st. All quiet.

Wednesday, Nov. 1st., 2d., & 3d. Nothing extra, but work going on very slow from Capt. Rochat's Indisposition as well as my own.

Saturday, Nov. 4th. Kingston come from Monkey Point.

Sunday, Nov. 5th. & 6th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Tuesday, Nov. 7th. The Kingston Sailed to St. John's Harbour with Lieut. McKinzey, Light Horse, 20 Barrels Powder, and 160 six-pounders round Shot for the Castle. Capt. Davis went also in Kingston to regulate sending up Provision, should the Hope be there.

Wednesday, Nov. 8th. & 9th. Col. Irving returned from up the River.

Saturday, Nov. 11th. Extremely ill, as I have been for 7 or 8 days past. Woods's Schooner returned into Port. Capt. Muller Left Col. Irving's Quarters to proceed up Bluefields River, to survey it and the Country as far as the Spanish Settlements, to report the Practicability of its Navigation, and the possibility of Marching an Army by that Route into the Spanish Country. Deemed by Col. Irving, who has been up

to the head of Russhua and into the Savanna, impossible.

Sunday, Nov. 12th. Allen arrived in the Royal George; reports that on the *10th. October* he arrived at St. Andreas, found the Ship Hope, the People in general well; sailed the *17th.; 18th.* parted in a Gale; made Monkey Point, and supposes the Hope to have got to the St. John's Harbour; put nine Puncheons of Water on board her.

Monday, Nov. 13th. Very ill of a fever, which has scarcely intermitted for these four days past.

Tuesday, Nov. 14th. Capt. Everett returned into Port the second time, the Wind and Current not permitting him to make head against it.

Wednesday, Nov. 15th. & 16th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Friday, Nov. 17th. Got some six pounders on the Bluff. Capt. Muller returned to Col. Irving's House, having been prevented proceeding up the River by the Spaniards taking the Alarm; did not get so high as the Falls.

Saturday, Nov. 18th. The Kingston returned from St. John's; the Hope not there. My Letters from the Castle as late as *24th. October.* All quiet there, but Capt. Dixon complains much of the bad State the Provisions come up in. Capt. Davis informs me the Waters in River St. John are six feet higher than when I left it, and the Current so rapid that no Boat can proceed. Lieut. McKenzie and Doctor left at the Mouth of the River to go up as soon as the flood would permit them.

Sunday, Nov. 19th. & 20th. Kingston repairing; Brig Polly sailed.

Tuesday, Nov. 21st. Kingston sailed with Mr. Muller.

Wednesday, Nov. 22d. Nothing Extraordinary.

Thursday, Nov. 23d. High Winds and bad Weather; Soldiers' Huts begun.

Friday, Nov. 24th. Capt. Askin arrived from

Jamaica with Dispatches from Gen. Dalling, ordering me to send orders to Officer Commanding at the Castle to blow up and Abandon it, bringing away all the Stores he can, and to bring off the Troops and Stores at Cook's Post with him, to leave one hundred Men at Bluefields with Stores, &c., and to give directions for fortifying the place; To send another hundred Men to Black River under the Command of a Captain. No orders relative to Craft or anything upon the Subject, though my Letters must have informed him that Pitpans were contracted for and making by order of Sir Alexander Leith.

Saturday, Nov. 25th. & 26th. Weather bad; Captain Todd ordered to be in readiness to proceed to the Castle, take the Schooner ——, Capt. Askin, into the Service.

Monday, Nov. 27th. Captain Todd Sailed for the Harbour of St. John's, and to proceed to the Castle with orders to Capt. Dixon or Officer Commanding to Abandon the place. Capt. Ross came this day from Pearl Key Lagoon, where he left the Hope; this Vessel had lain for three weeks in Bocca Toro Harbour, not having been able to make St. John's when She left St. Andreas; got into Pearl Key Lagoon the *26th.;* the hands and all on board in tolerable health except the Soldiers, which I am afraid proceeds from their want of Regularity.

Tuesday, Nov. 28th. Dispatched Letters to Messrs. Cairns and Thomson and to Mr. L'Estrange to stop engaging Pitpans and Craft for the Public Service, though no direction from Gen. Dalling to do so, only presuming from the Tenour of his Letters that they cannot be wanted, and will be a great Expense to Government; Mr. Brookman also forbid to buy or hire more Pitpans.

Wednesday, Nov. 29th. Took Possession of my Hut on the Bluff; found it very Cold; not well for two or three days before.

Thursday, Nov. 30th. Taken with the most Violent Ague and Fever I ever had.

Friday, Dec. 1st. Another Attack of the Ague. The Ship Hope arrived from Pearl Key Lagoon, and Anchored under the Bluff about 11 o'Clock morning. The wind very high, as it has been for ten days past, with hard Squalls and frequent Rain. A heavy Sea and the Hope rode with difficulty; in the Evening She fired several Guns as if in distress, and actually threw some Provisions, &c., overboard to lighten her; Alarmed and immediately ordered the Agent to get a Sloop ready to go to her Aid, supposed She wanted an Anchor and Cable, with which Materials She was ill found.

Saturday, Dec. 2d. The Weather rather more favourable; sent an Anchor and Cable on board the Hope; the Ship very leaky and in bad condition otherwise; got about 30 Barrels Provision out of her, but could get no more from the badness of the Weather. Order the Men of the L. I. C. on Shore as soon as possible. A third and very severe Attack of the Ague this day. Much reduced by it; Recommended to proceed to Jamaica by Dr. Jameson the Physician, and from thence to a Northern Climate for my health.

Sunday, Dec. 3d. By taking the bark in quantities put a stop to my disorder. The Sea so high that nothing could be got out of the Hope, and the Weather so changeable, boisterous, and uncomfortable that almost every Officer ill of the Ague and fever.

Monday, Dec. 4th. A Continuation of same Weather, and no better prospect for this Month to come.

Tuesday, Dec. 5th. and 6th. Lightening the Hope to get her into Harbour; the Resource, Capt. Archer, arrived from Jamaica, with Duplicates of my Dispatches for Abandoning the Castle. Capts. Thomson and O'Brien arrived from the Black River with Letters from Major Laurie, representing the probability of that Settlement being Attacked soon after Christmas; Send him 120 Stand of Arms, four Barrels Powder, and Musket Ball in proportion, with some Provision.

Thursday, Dec. 7th. The Resource Sailed for Monkey Point in order to cover the Embarkation of the Troops from St. John's Castle.

Friday, Dec. 8th. Order 110 Stand of Arms to be delivered Mr. Campbell, being sent in the Hope for Rattan, with 20 round of Ball for each. Weather continues very bad; Dr. Davidson has frequent relapses of the Ague, though very unexpected, having lived a long time on the Shore; Dr. Jameson very ill, though better.

Tincum returned from St. John's Harbour; no Letters from Capt. Dixon; private ones say the Troops at Castle are in great distress for want of Provisions; Negroes Desert with whole Boats loaden; the floods so high as to overflow Cook's Post, and all perishable Stores, Flour, &c., destroyed; Current so rapid that no boat can make head against it, and all distress.

Saturday, Dec. 9th. Order Vessel to Sail for St. John's Harbour with Provisions, as I expect the Garrison will be down from the Castle, prior to the Receipt of Orders to Evacuate it.

Sunday, Dec. 10th. Finishing my Letters for Jamaica, &c., &c.

Monday, Dec. 11th. The Sea so high on the Bar, the Hope could not be brought in; Weather Showery, as usual.

Tuesday, Dec. 12th. Bailey's Sloop dispatched to St. John's Harbour with Provisions, and to call on the Resource at Monkey Point.

Wednesday, Dec. 13th. Hope still at Anchor out of the Harbour; my fears for her safety not yet over; At 11, morning, brought over the Bar.

Thursday, Dec. 14th. Woods's Schooner Sailed for St. John's Harbour; Hope got to the Wharf, but in so bad condition as not to Sail again without a thorough repair, and the hire of her before that can be done will come to so great a Sum as to make it almost necessary to Pay for her, and Government to dispose of her Materials as the Cheapest Mode.

It is apprehended there has been great want of Conduct in the Master, and that he would have been as well pleased the Ship had been lost.

Friday, Dec. 15th. The Transports, Sally, Flora, and Betsy sailed for Jamaica; Mr. Stanford, Jameson, Lieuts. Fahy and Sheldon gone in them, all ill. These Transports begin to be leaky, and their hands to fall Sick, and it is much feared were they to remain longer they would meet with the same fate the Venus and others did, which is the reason of sending them without Convoy.

Saturday, Dec. 16th. Very heavy Rain all fore part of this day.

Sunday, Dec. 17th., 18th., & 19th. Nothing Extraordinary, but Col. Irving's arrival from Pearl Key Lagoon.

Wednesday, Dec. 20th. Capt. Dixon and Ensign Craskill arrived from the Castle, which they left the *16th.;* much mortified to hear the Mines will be long perfecting; surprised at their want of Tools, and at the Engineer's negligence in not sending for them before, as I had directed Capt. Dixon to have the Mines complete in case we should be under a necessity of quitting the Castle at short Notice.

Thursday, Dec. 21st., 22d., & 23d. Nothing Extraordinary; Weather better these few days past.

Sunday, Dec. 24th. About this time Col. Irving seriously talked to me on the situation of Affairs here, and his jealousies of Capt. Dick, a Woolwa Chief, carrying Intelligence to the Spaniards. On *21st.* past begun to cut down the bushes and form an Abbattis round the Hill.

Monday, Dec. 25th., to Sunday, 31st. The Negroes employed on the Abbattis, but much retarded by erecting Sheds for to cover Provisions, &c., pumping Ship Hope, and unloading her, it being feared She would sink alongside the Wharf, and distress on all hands by demands for Negroes' labour.

1781.

Monday, January 1st. & 2d. Wrote to Col. Irving on the danger of leaving his Stores on the other side, having a large quantity of Arms and Ammunition.

Wednesday, Jan. 3d. Wood returned with 24 Sick from St. John's Harbour, sent there from the Castle, but brings no Letters.

Thursday, Jan. 4th. Bailey's Sloop returned from St. John's Harbour with Letters from St. John's Castle of the *30th. & 31st. December*, which contain Intelligence that things will be sooner brought to a Conclusion there than was at first expected.

Friday, Jan. 5th. & 6th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Sunday, Jan. 7th. Bailey's Sloop sailed again for the Harbour.

Monday, Jan. 8th. & 9th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Wednesday, Jan. 10th. The Resource passed by for Monkey Point.

Thursday, Jan. 11th. The Kingston Packet arrived with Dispatches from Gen. Dalling.

Friday, Jan. 12th. & 13th. Nothing Extraordinary. Much rain about this time.

Sunday, Jan. 14th. The Schooner Pitt sailed for St. John's Harbour; rain.

Monday, Jan. 15th. & 16th. Nothing New.

Wednesday, Jan. 17th. Joe Woods's Schooner sailed for St. John's Harbour. The Redoubt Picketed out this day; commence Working on it to-morrow.

Thursday, Jan. 18th., 19th., & 20th. Nothing extraordinary; Weather in general bad.

Sunday, Jan. 21st. The Kingston sailed for Jamaica with Col. Irving, Capts. Dixon and MacDonald, and Lieut. Craskill.

Monday, Jan. 22d. Much Rain all this forenoon; bad Weather the whole day.

Tuesday, Jan. 23d. Lieut. McKenzie arrived from St. John's Harbour with 12 or 14 Light Horse and the

Spanish Men and Women Prisoners. Received Letters from Lieut. Brown at same time, acquainting me that the Spaniards came to the Castle on the *3d.* in the morning and took Ensign Wardell, 79th., Ensign Caldwell and Brumigham, of late Batteaux Corps, with Doctors Kieffe and Robinson, from Sir A. Leith's hut on the Height, and one Soldier of 79th. Prisoner; that about 7 o'Clock they began to fire on the Castle from three small pieces of Artillery, but on his sending some Marksmen to the Tower they were drove from their Guns; That during the day and part of Night they charged two Mines (having blown one before), which Mr. Despard set fire to, and the Rest of the Garrison retreated in safety, leaving one ten-pound and two 6-pound Brass Guns at the water side not spiked; that it is thought the Castle is effectually destroyed, and arrived at the Harbour the *7th.;* had taken up two iron six pounders from the Sloop Success.

Bailey's Sloop so leaky that they could hardly keep her above Water; Everett's Sloop in very bad order also.

Wednesday, Jan. 24th. Captain Wood arrived from St. John's Harbour with some sick.

Thursday, Jan. 25th. Nothing Extraordinary.

Friday, Jan. 26th. Lieut. Brown, and Despard, Engineer, with the remainder of the Troops and stores, arrived from St. John's Harbour. Since my being here two Curiosities have been put into the Doctor's hands, viz.: a large Spider, about 2½ inches long, of great strength, taken in one of the Gentlemen's Huts; and a Snake, both ends apparently the same, but no Mouth or Sting at the Tail—the Negroes said it was poisonous—about 2 feet long, and Brown in Colour, thought to be a Tom Goss. The other Snake in this Country of a poisonous nature is called the Barber's Pole, of a striped Colour, and very dangerous. Deer are killed in this Country, but small, of a light Brown Colour, and flesh quite White, but have

no great taste. The Quam and Curasoa Birds are good in November and December, but in June, July, and August poor, dry, tough, and insipid,—the Curasoa particularly, only fit to make soup of. Partridges as large as Dung Hill Fowls are also to be had of an excellent flavour and brown flesh, and others rather larger than the Northern Quail extremely good, and resemble the Quail in every respect; the other birds in general of indifferent eating. The Warree and Peccary, a species of Wild Hog, very good Eating; the Manati, a fish that feeds upon Grass, about 5 to 7 feet long, has a horizontal tail, and very good, black in colour, and has a thick Skin. Great quantities of Teal and Duck are to be shot in the Lagoons, and excellent in their kind. Snook Fish got at the Castle in great numbers, and very fine in all November and December, as well as Crawfish 5 pounds weight; Snook killed by fixing a Bayonet on a stick at the edges of the Water. Tarpum, a larger fish, caught in other seasons, very bad; Snook excellent; Tarpum from four to six foot long; Alligators and Shark at the Castle Innumerable.

Saturday, Jan. 27th., to Wednesday, 31st. Nothing Extraordinary, but preparing to quit the place for Jamaica.

Thursday, February 1st. Nothing Extraordinary.

Friday, Feb. 2d. Surprised at no Account of Capt. Patterson and the Craft; taken ill of the Ague; have been unwell some days.

Saturday, Feb. 3d. Continue unwell. Send a Boat with ten paddles to get Intelligence of Capt. Patterson.

Sunday, Feb. 4th. She returns, having been overset in Hone Sound Bar, and the People near Perishing.

Monday, Feb. 5th. Resolved to go to Jamaica.

Tuesday, Feb. 6th. The Detachment for Black River Embarked.

Wednesday, Feb. 7th. The Royal George, one of

the Vessels to go to Black River, sprung a leak last Night; ordered to be hove down.

Thursday, Feb. 8th. Embarked on board the Resource for Jamaica, and Sailed about 2 P. M. Bluefields Bluff is in Latitude 11.57. The Harbour good when you are in, but a Vessel drawing more than 12 or 13 feet of Water cannot get over the Bar. Course from Bluefields about E. B. S.; Wind N. E.

Friday, Feb. 9th. Off St. John's Harbour, Lat. 11.5. Lat. of Harbour, 10.45; Wind N. E.

Saturday, Feb. 10th. Small rain and cloudy Weather off Bocca Toro; Wind W. S. W.; Course N. E. B. E. Lat. 10.4.

Sunday, Feb. 11th. Fair Weather and light Winds. Lat. 9.41; Course E. ½ N. Distance, 15 Leagues.

Monday, Feb. 12th. Fresh Breeze all this 24 hours, at North Latitude; observed 9.30 off Porto Bello. Course Easterly-Southerly. Distance, 24 Leagues. At Noon tacked and stood to the N. W., land bearing upon Lee bow E. S. E. to S. W. upon the Quarter.

Tuesday, Feb. 13th. Bailey in distress all this morning; two pumps going, and can't free her. At 12 Noon took Lieut. Knox, Ensign Pine, and Mr. Galbreath on board, with some Negroes; the Vessel something lightened, makes less Water, and stood for the Sanblas. Latitude observed, 9.42. Course first half 24 hours N. W.; Latter half E. by N.; land to the Southward very distant. Wind N. N. E.; fresh Gale and Squally all these 24 hours. At 4 Yesterday afternoon took the Schooner in tow, She having Split her kelson; at 10 A. M. Cast her off, having repaired and secured her mast. At 2 P. M. the Sloop Industry made the Signal of distress; at 3 came under our Stern, the Water in her hold above the Guns. At 4 got all the People out of her, cut away her mast, and left her with a quantity of Ordnance (brass) from St. John's Castle, in all ten pieces, two four-pounders, the largest French, some Provisions, &c., but the Sea was so high that nothing could be saved. Tacked at

six A. M.; course N. W. Tacked at 12 at night; course E.

Wednesday, Feb. 14th. Pleasant weather and fine breeze at N. N. E., at 8 P. M., made the land, stood in for it, at Meridian so near the Shore as to distinguish the Cleared Ground four Miles to the Eastward of Porto Bello, and within 2 of two small Rocks or Islands. A point of land to the Eastward about two leagues, off which are two keys, the Harbour hid from us by a bluff, and not to be looked into but from the Westward, and is entirely covered by high land to the Eastward, which probably excludes the Sea Breeze, and makes it so unhealthy. Lat. 9.42; Tacked at Meridian, and stood to the N. W. and B. W.; Porto Bello in Lat. 9.33 North. The Country to the Eastward is well inhabited, is high, and probably healthy; To the Westward low; just at the Harbour's Mouth is a Rock, but not fortified, nor can any fortification be erected there; At 6 P. M. tacked and stood to the N. W.; At 12 at Night stood to the Eastward again.

Thursday, Feb. 15th. Fine Weather, Course East. Lat. observed 9.52 North; See the looming of the land bearing S. S. W. 12 or 14 Leagues, supposed to be the Highlands to windward of Porto Bello.

Friday, Feb. 16th. Fine Weather and pleasant breeze these 24 hours past, Wind North; Steer E. N. E., suppose to make a due East Course. Lat. Observed 9.24; Highland upon the Lee quarter. Suppose to be off the Gulf of Darien.

Saturday, Feb. 17th. Pleasant Weather and light Winds, Course N. E. At 10 P. M., land in the W. S. W. Quarter. Lat. Observed 9.31 North.

Sunday, Feb. 18th. At 6 P. M. Fresh Breeze, sounded 25th. fathom, tacked and stood to the N. W.; at 8 Gale increased, down Top Gallant Yards; at 9 blew hard and high Sea, handed fore T. Sail; at 6 A. M. Gale continue, tacked and stood to the Eastward; at 8 Saw the Schooner to Leeward; at Merid-

ian, Lat. 10.9, Gale continues, a strong Northerly Current, Carthagena bearing N. E. 17 leagues.

Monday, Feb. 19th. Fresh Breeze all these 24 hours; at 6 P. M. tacked and stood to the N. W.; at 12 Night tacked and stood to the Eastward; at 8 A. M. the Schooner Dolphin made a signal of distress; at 9 took several people out of her, and gave the Command of her to Mr. Campbell, Pilot of the Resource, who undertook for £200 to bring her to Jamaica and her cargo; at 11 A. M. She made Sail for the San Blas; at half-past Meridian She was out of sight. Lat. observed 10.19; Carthagena bearing East. Distant 16 Leagues.

Capt. Pettet, Jamaica Volunteers, died on board the Schooner the *12th.* Mr. Orton, Surgeon's Mate Stavely, Mr. Tripple, conductor of Artillery, Kent the Carpenter, four Spaniards of Light Dragoons, Antonio, a Negro Prisoner, Two black and One White Woman, taken out of the Schooner.

Tuesday, Feb. 20th. At two P. M. tacked and stood to the Eastward; at 6 tacked and stood to the Westward; at 8 fresh Gale, handed M. T. Sail; Gale Continued all Night; at 8 A. M. set Main Top Sail; Gale continues, but fine weather; tacked and stood to the Eastward; At Meridian ditto, Gale. Lat. observed 10.40, Wind N. N. E., Course E. B. S. ½ S., Carthagena distant 20 Leagues, bearing E. B. S.

Wednesday, Feb. 21st. Had a severe fit of the Ague. Lat. observed 10.30, Wind N. N. E., Course E. B. S., Carthagena distant 6 Leagues; stood in for this land; at 3 A. M. tacked and stood to the Westward, Carthagena bearing E. B. N. 4 Leagues, the Fortifications in view, and a large Convent called *Madre de la Papa*, or the Mother of the Pope, about 7 Miles in the Country, Carthagena, Lat. 10.30.

Thursday, Feb. 22d. Stood over for Jamaica, Wind E. N. E.; fresh Gale this and the preceding day, Lat. observed 12 North.

Friday, Feb. 23d. Fresh Gale all these 24 hours,

Wind E. N. E. ½ N., Course North Westerly, Lat. observed 13.48.

Remarks upon the Rainy Season at the Castle at St. Juan. The Winds from about *20th. October* to *20th. December* are strong (at North), with constant and heavy Rains during the day, but frequently at Night from the Southward, both very Cold, pleasant, and healthy to our Troops, but to the Spaniards the Contrary, most of whom were ill of violent fevers. This shows the difference of constitution and mode of living. The Spaniards are a temperate People, eat little meat, and live mostly on Vegetables and Roots; nor do those in the Colonies drink any Wine; the Officers at the Castle said they did not believe there was a Bottle of Wine in Granada, and, except the President, not ten men that had Wine in Guatemala.

Saturday, Feb. 24th. Fresh Breeze these 24 hours. Wind E. B. N., Course North Easterly, Distance 130 Miles. Lat. Observed 15.58.

Sunday, Feb. 25th. Fine Weather and pleasant breeze these 24 hours. Wind E. N. E., Course North, Distance 60. At 11 P. M. made Portland Rock, distant 14 Miles. Lat. Observed 16.56. At half-past one P. M. passed the Rock about a Mile off. It's about a quarter of a Mile in circumference, very deep Water close to it, has no Verdure upon it, and appears to be jagged and very sharp pointed, from whence it may be supposed the Sea often breaks over it. It is near ten Leagues from this Rock to Portland Point in the Island of Jamaica, a direct North course.

Monday, Feb. 26th. Fine Weather and Calm all the forenoon. Portland Point bearing N. B. E. Lat. Observed 17.27. At one P. M. a Breeze at E. B. S. ½ S. Course N. E. B. N. Portland Point distant 3 Leagues. At 3 abreast of Portland Key; tacked and stood to the Southward; at 5 tacked and stood N. E. B. N. again. Three Sail appear to be standing into Old Harbour.

Tuesday, Feb. 27th. Arrived at Port Royal about

half-past three Afternoon, landed at Port Henderson at dusk; at 9 Night got to Spanish Town; the Governor ill, could not see him; sent for at daybreak, his Excellency going into the Country, had only a moment's Conversation with him.

Wednesday, Feb. 28th. Dined with Brigadier Campbell; very politely received, and have reason from his conversation to think my Conduct has met with the Approbation of the World.

Thursday, March 1st. & 2d. Remained at Spanish Town.

Saturday, March 3d. Went to Kingston; find Sir Alexander Leith's behaviour has been most Infamous.

Sunday, March 4th. Saw Sir Peter Parker, who railed against the Expedition. Dined with Gen. Garth, who is also dissatisfied.

Monday, March 5th. Returned to Spanish Town; not very well.

Tuesday, March 6th. Something better, though apprehend the Ague to-morrow.

Wednesday, March 7th. A severe attack of the Ague.

Thursday, March 8th. Went to Donnington, Gen. Dalling's place in St. Mary's.

Friday, March 9th. A very severe Ague and Fever for full 24 hours.

Saturday, March 10th. Took the bark in quantities. Find the air of Donnington very Cold and Chilly.

Sunday, March 11th., to Thursday, 15th. Tolerably well.

Friday, March 16th. & 17th. Not very well.

Sunday, March 18th. & 19th. Feverish.

Tuesday, March 20th. Got back to Spanish Town.

Wednesday, March 21st. & 22d. Not very well.

Friday, March 23d. Went to Kingston; not well.

Saturday, March 24th. Not well.

Sunday, March 25th. Returned to Spanish Town.

Seized with a Violent Ague; very Delirious great part of the day.

Monday, March 26th. Took quantities of the Bark and threw the Fever off.

Tuesday, March 27th., to Saturday, 31st. Mending.

Sunday, April 1st., to Wednesday, 4th. Some Apprehensions of an Ague, but hope it is the effects of Cold and will go off.

Thursday, April 5th. & 6th. Tolerably well.

II.

ORDERS

OF

BRIGADIER-GENERAL STEPHEN KEMBLE,

EXPEDITION TO NICARAGUA.

1780--1781.

ORDERS OF

BRIGADIER-GENERAL KEMBLE.

Fort Augusta, 29th. Jan., 1780.

Capt. Bulkely with 50 Men from the Detachment of the 79th. Regiment, and Capt. Harrïson with 50 from that of the Loyal Irish Corps, to Embark on Board His Majesty's Ship the Hinchinbroke to-Morrow morning at Gun firing, when Boats are Ordered to be ready to carry them on Board.

The Officers who go in the Man of War are Desired to send their Baggage on Board this Evening.

The remainder of the Troops are to hold themselves in readiness to Embark on the shortest notice.

Fort Augusta, 1st. Feb., 1780.

The remainder of the Detachment from the Loyal Irish Corps are to Embark on Board the Penelope transport as soon as the Officer at present Commanding the Troops at Fort Augusta, under Orders for Embarkation, shall think proper.

As soon as the Troops have Embarked, the Officer commanding on Board each transport will make an Exact Return of the Number of Men of each Regiment on Board and send it to the Adjutant-General in His Majesty's ship, Hinchinbroke.

Hinchinbroke, Feb. 15th., 1780.

As it is not Specified in the Commissions to the Officers of the Volunteers how they are to Rank with

the Regulars, the Commanding Officer thinks it Necessary to make Known to them what His Excellency Gen. Dalling has been pleased to fix in his Instruction to him, Viz.:

Field Officers of the Volunteers to Rank with Captains of the Regulars, Captains with Lieutenants, and Lieutenants with Ensigns, according to Dates of their several Commissions.

His Excellency has also been pleased to Appoint Capt. Polson Colonel and Commander in Chief on the Expedition.

Lieut. Mounsey, Adjutant-General.
Capt. Hallam, Deputy Quarter Master General.
Lieut. Despard, Engineer.
Ensign Schomberg, Sub Engineer.
Mr. Samuel Jones, Store Keeper of Artillery.
Napier Lieutenant, Fire Worker.
Treple and Munro, Conductors of Artillery.

The troops are to hold themselves in readiness to disembark this Evening or to-morrow Morning.

Wank's Camp, 16th. Feb., 1780.

The different Detachments to make a Return as soon as Possible of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, Privates, Drummers, Servants not Soldiers, Women and Children, mentioning the Names of Each, these Returns to be given into the Adjutant-General, that a General one may be made for the Commander in Chief.

The Regulars are to be formed into one Battalion and the Volunteers into another, each Battalion to Mount a Quarter Guard and Rear Guard.

The Quarter Guard of the Regulars to Consist of One Subaltern, One Serjeant, One Corporal, One Drummer, and Twenty One Privates; that of the Volunteers, One Subaltern, One Serjeant, One Corporal, One Drummer, and Fifteen Privates.

The Rear Guard of the Regulars to consist of One Serjeant, One Corporal, and Twelve Privates.

That of the Volunteers, one Serjeant, One Corporal, and Nine Privates.

Wank's Camp, 17th. Feb., 1780.

Parole Nelson.

The troops in future to beat at 8 o'Clock in the Morning, when the Officers and Men are to parade for Roll Calling and the different Guards mount.

The Retreat at Five o'Clock in the evening, when the Men will again parade; the Tattoo at Eight o'Clock when the Men will go to their Tents and no more Noise allowed in Camp; the Serjeant of the Rear Guard is then to see the fires put out.

A Picket to mount every Evening at Retreat beating, Consisting of One Captain, One Subaltern, Two Serjeants, two Corporals, one Drummer, and Thirty-Six Privates, which Picket is to remain in Camp with their Accoutrements on, and ready to turn out at a Moment's warning.

The Captain of the Picket will go the Grand Rounds at any Hour he pleases of the Night, and direct the Subaltern to go Visiting Rounds; frequent Patrols to go from the Quarter Guard.

Lieut. Colvill of 79th. is to act as Quarter Master, and Lieut. Leo of the Loyal Irish to act as Adjutant to the Battalion of Regulars.

The Adjutants of the two Battalions will attend the Adjutant General every Day at 12 o'Clock, to receive General Orders.

The Commander in Chief desires the Officers Commanding Detachments to direct their men's Rum t be given them at two different times of the day mixed with Water, Viz.: Nine o'Clock in the Morning, and at 1 P. M.

The Commander in Chief positively forbids any firing of Muskets, &c., in the Neighbourhood of the Camp, as it may Cause frequent Alarms.

Wank's Camp, Feb. 18th., 1780.

Parole Laurie, C. S. Dalrymple.

The Commander in Chief is very sorry to find that some of the Soldiers have been Marauding. He flattered himself that he Commanded a Body of Men who would Act on a very different Principle than that of Robbing and distressing the Inhabitants of the Country they are in, who are their friends. He is, however, certain that every good Soldier will give information of any Person he finds Committing such an Outrage, and The Commander in Chief assures them that the very first found offending in this Respect shall be most severely Punished.

He also desires that the Soldiers will cultivate a Friendship with the Indians and endeavour to gain their good will, as the assistance of them will be of the greatest Use on the Service we are going.

The Corps of Volunteers will be mustered to-morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock by the Commander in Chief; they are therefore to be Under Arms at that Hour.

All Orders are to be read to the Men in their Streets before they are Marched out to the front.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 19th. Feb., 1780.

Parole Jamaica, C. S. Kingston.

Many mistakes having arisen in drawing provisions from the Commissary, the Commander in Chief directs them in future to be drawn in the following manner, Viz.:

The Detachment of the 69th. Regiment in One Body.

Capt. Despard's Co., 79th. Regiment, in One Body.

Capt. Bulkely's Detachment, 79th. Regiment, in One Body.

The Detachment of the Loyal Irish in One Body.

The Volunteers landed from the Julia transport in One Body.

Volunteers landed from the Penelope transport in One Body.

The Tradesmen and Seamen in One Body.

Officers of Artillery and others not particularized are to be supplied in Quantities, not less than ten Rations.

Officers to draw their Rations with their Men, and only to be supplied with one each, and an Allowance will be made of One Shilling Sterling per Ration for the deficiency.

Provisions will be issued to the Regulars from Six o'Clock to nine in the Morning, and to the Volunteers from that Hour 'till 12 at Noon.

The Commander in Chief desires that the Officers who have Received Marquees from the Deputy Quarter Master General will be particularly careful of them, as they are to be considered public Stores and not private property, therefore will be returned unless orders should be Received from His Excellency Gen. Dalling respecting them.

Acting Ensign Wardle of 79th. Regiment is to do Duty as Ensign with the Detachment from that Regiment.

The Battalion of Volunteers to furnish the Picket this Evening.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 20th. Feb., 1780.

Parole Kemble, C. S. Hinchinbroke.

The Commander in Chief desires a Return may be made immediately to the Adjutant-General of the Number of Men in each Corps who have been Exercised at the Great Guns, and of those used to make Cartridges.

The Officers Commanding Companies and Detachments are desired not to draw Rations for the Men who are Sick in Hospital, but are to mention the Number they have there every Morning in their provision Return, the Artificers at Work under the direction of Master Shipwright in the same manner; The

Commander in Chief desires the Officers of the different Corps will not suffer their Men to Barter their Clothing or Necessaries for Provisions or other things, as they cannot be again supplied with them in this Country.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 21st. Feb., 1780.

Parole Clinton, C. S. York.

The Volunteers to furnish the Picket this Evening; Major McDonald and Capt. Cook of the Volunteers, Officers for Picket.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 22d. Feb., 1780.

Parole Expedition, C. S. Success.

The men Returned as having practised the Great Guns are to attend one of the Conductors of Artillery every Evening at 4 o'Clock; they are nevertheless to fall in with the Battalion in the Mornings, but to do no other Duty.

The Storekeeper of Artillery will get on Shore immediately such things as are wanting for the two field pieces.

The Battalion of Regulars to furnish the Pickets this Evening.

Capt. Bulkely and Lieut. Leigh for Picket this Evening.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 23d. Feb., 1780.

Parole London, C. S. Westminster.

The Commander in Chief desires the Officers of the different Corps will settle with the Commissary to-morrow for what Rations are due them both while on Board Ship and since Landing.

The Regulars to furnish the Picket this Evening; Officers for Picket, Capt. Harrison and Lieut. Fahy.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 24th Feb., 1780.

Parole Schomberg, C. S. Royal George.

The Commander in Chief Desires Officers of the two Battalions will give in the Dates of their Commissions to the Adjutant-General.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 25th. Feb., 1780.

Parole Bristol, C. S. Bath.

The Commander in Chief recommends it to the Officers to be putting their Baggage on board the transport, as it is probable the Army will Embark in a few days.

The Volunteers to furnish the Picket this Evening; Officers for Picket, Major McDonald and Capt. McDonald.

General after Orders.

A Subaltern Picket of each Battalion to mount this Evening.

The Picket of the Regulars to Consist of

Sub.	Serj.	Corps.	Drum.	Privates.
1	1	2	1	21

That of the Volunteers—of

Sub.	Serj.	Corps.	Privates.
1	1	1	15

The Subalterns of the Pickets to go Visiting Rounds twice during the Night in their own Encampment.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 26th. Feb., 1780.

Parole America, C. S. Quebec.

A Subaltern's Picket of each Battalion to mount in future as ordered last Night.

A Captain of the Day from each Battalion to be Appointed, who is to go Grand Rounds as often as he thinks proper during the Night, in the Encampment of the Battalion he belongs to.

The Subalterns of the Pickets will furnish whatever Number of Men the Captains of the Day may desire as an Escort.

All Demands on the Commissary for single Rations due to Officers from the 1st. to 25th. of this Month, inclusive, to be given into the Quarter Master of each Battalion on or before the 28th. Instant, after which time no such Demand will be allowed.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 27th. Feb., 1780.

Parole Louisbourg, C. S. Halifax.

Wank's Camp, 28th. Feb., 1780.

Parole Virginia, C. S. Williamsburgh.

The Detachment of the 60th. Regiment and Light Infantry Company of the 79th. Regiment to Embark on Board the Horatio Transport to-morrow morning. They will parade in the front of their own Encampment at Reveille beating. The Deputy Quarter Master General will provide Boats to carry them on Board at that time; as the tents will be wet, they are not to strike them, but leave them standing.

The Remainder of the troops will hold themselves in readiness to Embark on Wednesday Morning.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 29th. Feb., 1780.

Parole Carolina, C. S. Charlestown.

The Volunteers are to be mustered this Evening at five o'Clock.

They are to Embark on Board the Julia and Penelope transports to-morrow Morning at Reveille beating in the same proportions as before.

The Deputy Quarter Master General will provide Boats for their Embarkation.

G. O. Wank's Camp, 1st. March, 1780.

Parole King George, C. S. Tempest.

The Detachment of the Loyal Irish Corps that came

here in the Penelope are to Embark on Board her to-morrow morning.

The Sick in Hospital are also to be put at that time on Board the transport in which their Respective Companies are.

The Surgeon General will distribute the Mates among the different Ships to take care of them.

The Detachment of the 79th. Regiment from Black River will Embark with the Loyal Irish on Board the Brig Penelope.

The Deputy Quarter Master General will provide Boats for the Embarkation of the troops in the Morning, and will get as many of the Stores put on Board as he can in the course of the Day.

Wank's Camp, 3 March, 1780.

The Remainder of the Troops to Embark on Board His Majesty's Ship, the Hinchinbroke, to-morrow Morning.

The Deputy Quarter Master General will provide Boats for their Embarkation.

Gracia de Deas.

On Board His Majesty's Ship Hinchinbroke,
March 5th., 1780.

His Excellency Gen. Dalling has been pleased to appoint James Laurie, Esq., Major Commandant of all the Volunteers raised on the Mosquito Shore and Bay of Honduras, likewise of all the Indians. Commission dated 20th. November, 1779.

Mr. James Thompson, Captain; Commission dated 1st. March, 1780.

Mr. Edward Caddelle, Captain; Commission dated 2d. March, 1780.

Mr. James Pitt Laurie, Lieutenant; Commission dated 1st. March, 1780.

Mr. Robert Foxley, Lieutenant; Commission dated 2d. March, 1780.

Mr. Samuel House, Ensign; Commission dated 1st. March, 1780.

Mr. David Lamb, Adjutant; Commission dated 1st. March, 1780.

Mr. Samuel House, Quarter Master; Commission dated 1st. March, 1780.

Mr. Richard Armstrong, Surgeon; Commission dated 1st. March, 1780.

Lieut. Vernon, of the Jamaica Volunteers, having resigned his Commission in said Corps, is appointed to do duty as Ensign with the Detachments from the 60th. Regiment.

Ensign Douglas, of the J. V., is appointed Lieutenant, vice Vernon resigned; Commission dated 3d. March, 1780.

Mr. William Turner to be Ensign vice Douglas promoted; Commission dated 3d. March, 1780.

Ensign Mr. Lear to be Lieutenant; Commission dated 4th. March, 1780.

Mr. John Davis to be Ensign; Commission dated 4th. March, 1780.

A Captain, Subaltern, and 28 Men of Major Laurie's Corps to hold themselves in Readiness to march to Black River on the Shortest Notice.

G. O. Hinchinbroke, 21st. March, 1780.

An Exact State of all the Detachments from the different Regiments and Corps, and of the Volunteer Corps, to be given to the Adjutant-General tomorrow.

The troops are to hold themselves in readiness to disembark as soon as the Ships come to Anchor in the Harbour of St. John's.

Capt. Bulkely, Two Subalterns, two Serjeants, One Drummer, and Fifty Rank and File from the Detachment of the 79th. Regiment, and two Captains, three Subalterns, three Serjeants, two Drummers, and Fifty Rank and File, from the Jamaica Volunteers, to take

post immediately after Landing, on such Ground as the Engineer will point out to them.

The Detachment of the 60th. Regiment, the L. I. Company of the 79th., with the remainder of the Detachment from that Regiment, the Loyal Irish, the Jamaica Volunteers, and Major Laurie's Corps are to get five Days' provisions cooked, as they will be embarked in Crafts, to proceed up the River St. John's, where they will have no opportunity of Cooking.

The Commissary will order such provisions as are to be sent with the troops to be put on board the Crafts before they embark in them.

The Store Keeper of Artillery will have the 12, 6, and 4 Pounders, with their Ammunition, &c., &c., put on the very bottom of the Crafts ; he will give the 24 and 9 Pounders what Cartridges are made up for them, and 24 Barrels of Powder, with their Balls, &c., &c., to Sub Engineer Schomberg, who is to remain with Capt. Bulkely, and he is also to give him a sufficient quantity of Powder and Musket Ball to make up 100 Rounds of Cartridges for 200 Men.

The Commander in Chief desires the Officers Commanding the troops on Board the different Transports will have the Articles of War read to the Men before they Disembark.

Mr. John Campbell is appointed Chief Director (with the Rank of Captain) of all the Crafts, Pitpans, Dories, &c., which shall be Employed on the Expedition.

The Commander in Chief thinks it necessary to make known an Article of his Instruction from His Excellency Gen. Dalling, which is as follows :

"I beg your Attention to the following paragraph in the last dispatch from the Superintendent on the Shore, that the Commanding Officer on the Expedition should be instructed to avoid giving any Disgust to the Indians, by depriving them of their private plunder, which might occasion a general defection and prove fatal to the Enterprise. To this I must add my

positive directions to all Officers serving under you, that they interfere not in any respect whatsoever with the Indians but from your Orders, and that they take every Step that the Soldiery have little connection with them, in Order to avoid the possibility of Disgust on their side ; this to be inculcated in the most Strong manner, with an assurance that the neglect of so necessary a piece of Duty will produce dismission to the Officers of Volunteers, and trial by a General Court Martial to the Officers of the Regular Forces. The Necessity of keeping such People in good humour is obvious ; inconsistencies, and even absurdities, from them must not be Combated."

The Commander in Chief assures the Officers and Soldiers he at present has the Honour of Commanding that it is not from any reason he has to find fault with their treatment of the Indians hitherto that the above is inserted, but as now their Number will be greater, more irregularities must be expected from them ; he therefore thinks it necessary to inculcate in the strongest manner the absolute Necessity of granting them every indulgence, as their defection would certainly render the success of the Expedition precarious. He is also well assured that the negroes who have been taken into the Service will be treated with the utmost humanity.

In case it should be found necessary for the Army to go up the River in two separate divisions, Lieut. Fireworker Napier and Conductor Munro will go with the first. Lieut. Fireworker Napier is therefore to receive from the Store Keeper of Artillery the Guns attached and other Military Stores belonging to it. The Store Keeper of Artillery and Conductor Triple will proceed with the Second Division and take charge of the Guns attached and other Military Stores belonging to it. The Store Keeper will apply to the Adjutant General to know the different proportions the Commander in Chief intends for each.

A Return to be given in immediately of the Num-

ber of Cartridges and Flints wanting to Complete to 36 Rounds per man and three flints each.

The Store Keeper of Artillery to give in immediately a Return of the Arms delivered to the Jamaica Volunteers ; he is also to get a Receipt for them from Major Macdonald.

G. O. Hinchinbroke, 26th. March, 1780.

Capt. Bulkely, with the Detachments from the Regulars and Volunteers, are not to remain here as directed in former Orders.

One Subaltern, One Serjeant, One Drummer, and 15 Rank and File from the Regulars, and One Subaltern, One Serjeant, and 15 Rank and File from the Corps of Jamaica Volunteers, are to take post this forenoon on such Ground as will be pointed out to them.

The remainder of the Regulars composing the first division are to proceed up the River to-morrow morning ; they will therefore Cook five Days' provisions.

Such Men as the Surgeon General thinks unable to go with their Detachments are to be left here.

The Second Division, consisting of all the other troops, will follow as soon as a Sufficient number of Craft arrives to take them.

G. O. St. John's River, April 1st., 1780.

As the Army is now entering into an Enemy's Country, an Attack may always be Expected. The Commander in Chief therefore thinks it necessary to make the following Disposition :

The Light Infantry Company of the 79th. Regiment are always to be in front, and, in case of an Attack on that part, are to land and form in such a Manner as the Officer Commanding them may think most advantageous, according to the Situation of the Country.

The Detachment from the 60th. Regiment will follow them, and, in case of an Attack, land as soon as

possible for their support, forming on their left, unless they have Directions to the contrary from the Commander in Chief, or, in his absence, Capt. Despard.

The Detachment from the 79th. Regiment will follow and observe the same directions.

The Loyal Irish Corps will bring up the rear.

In case of an Attack either on Center or Rear, the troops attacked will endeavour to make good their landing and form in the manner above directed, or as the Officer present Commanding shall think necessary.

The Commander in Chief having so great a dependence on the troops he has the Honour of Commanding thinks it unnecessary to recommend to themathe utmost attention to their Arms and Ammunition; he would also have the greatest confidence in the conduct of the Officers and Bravery of the Soldiery, recommend to them the use of the Bayonet wherever it can be done in good order, without creating Confusion, as nothing strikes such a Damp on foreign or undisciplined troops as Coming to close Quarters.

The Commander in Chief Directs that in future none of the Crafts go ahead as they have hitherto done, but those in front on meeting with any Shoal will, after getting over it, go no farther than to allow the other Craft room to get over; he also desires that they will assist each other, but he is sensible he need give no farther directions on that head, from the very good Disposition he has observed in the troops to forward the Service they are going on.

G. O. Fourth day's Sail from the Harbor of St. John's, 2d. April, 1780.

Parole Russia, C. S. Petersburgh.

The Commander in Chief desires the Officers will get their men into the Crafts every Morning by Break of Day.

G. O. Fifth day's Sail, 3d. April, 1780.

Parole Norway, C. S. Bergen.

G. O. Sixth day's Sail, April 4th., 1780.

Parole Ireland, C. S. Dublin.

As the Army is now approaching the Castle of St. John's, The Commander in Chief desires that no Noise whatever may be allowed in Camp, and that the men get into their Boats as quietly as possible, &c. The Boats will keep in their proper Stations to-morrow.

G. O. Seventh day's Sail, April 5th., 1780.

Parole England, C. S. London.

G. O. Eighth day's Sail, April 6th., 1780.

Parole Scotland, C. S. Glasgow.

The Surgeons' Mates are to attend the Surgeon General, and give him such assistance as he may require.

No fires are to be made in Camp to-night.

G. O. April 7th., 1780.

Parole Holland, C. S. Hague.

The troops will march by Land from hence to-morrow morning to the upper end of the Rapids; such men as are not able to march will be embarked in the Crafts, which the Mosquito men are directed to carry up to Still Water, where the troops will again go on board of them in the same proportions as before. The greatest Silence to be observed on the march and in the Crafts.

As the duty will now become hard on the Soldiers, all Officers' Servants will go on whatever Duty their Masters are ordered. No Non-Commissioned Officers or Soldiers to be Excused duty, except in case of Sickness or Confinement.

G. O. 8th. April, 1780.

Parole Belfast, C. S. Carrickfergus.

The troops are to hold themselves in readiness to Embark in the Crafts early to-morrow morning.

G. O. Lookout Island, 9th. April, 1780.

Parole King George, C. S. Success.

A Subaltern and twenty men to remain in this Island to take charge of the Spanish Prisoners; the remainder of the troops will embark in the Crafts early to-morrow morning.

G. O. First day from Lookout Island, 10th. April, 1780.

Parole Quebec, C. S. Carleton.

A Detachment of One Captain, two Subalterns, three Serjeants, One Drummer and Eighty Rank and File to advance immediately and take post about a mile and half or two miles in front.

The Officer commanding the Detachment will leave a Special number of men to carry four days' provisions for the whole, as soon as they can be delivered, which they will Cook this night.

The Army will proceed by land to-morrow morning; One Subaltern and twenty men are to remain and take charge of the Crafts and Baggage.

G. O. April 14th., 1780.

Parole Dover, C. S. Deal.

Two days' provision to be issued to the troops this Evening.

G. O. Post before St. John's, April 15th., 1780.

Parole Hampton, C. S. Windsor.

General Morning Orders. April 16th., 1780.

Three days' provision to be issued to the troops immediately. The working party are to have their Provisions Cooked this Evening.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 16th. April, 1780.
Parole Halifax, C. S. Hull.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 17th. April, 1780.
Parole Kent, C. S. Essex.

All Guards, Detachments and working parties to be relieved this Evening.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 18th. April, 1780.
Parole Dunrobin, C. S. Sutherland.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 19th. April, 1780.
Parole Ross, C. S. Tuin.

As it is uncertain when the second Division of Craft may arrive, The Commander in Chief thinks it necessary to put the troops to the following allowance of Provisions, Viz. :

½ lb. of Beef, ½ lb. of Flour, ½ pint of Rum, Per Diem.

Two days' Provisions to be issued to the troops this and to-morrow morning ; each Provision Return to be given in to the Commander in Chief, as the Commissary had directions not to issue any without his Particular Order.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 20th. April, 1780.
Parole Inverness, C. S. Fort George.

Capt. Despard's Detachment and the Baggage Guard to be relieved this Evening.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 21st. April, 1780.
Parole Elgin, C. S. Aberdeen.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 22d. April, 1780.
Parole Dundee, C. S. Banff.

The Different detachments and Guards to be relieved this Evening.

St. John's Harbour, Friday, 21st. April, 1780.
Parole Resource.

His Excellency Gen. Dalling has been Pleased by Letter of the 18th. Inst. to order Lieut.-Col. Kemble to assume the Rank of Brigadier-General during his command of the King's Troops on the Main, and no longer; Ensign Charles Browne, of the 60th., is appointed to Act as Major of Brigade and is to be obeyed as such. The Officers Commanding Detachments are to Apply Immediately to Mr. Galbraith, Deputy Agent, on board the Monarch, for a Blanket for each Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, and Private man, and give Receipts for the same.

A Detachment of 30 Men with Officers in proportion from the Legion to be in readiness to proceed up the River at a moment's Warning.

Orders, half past 11 o'Clock.

Two Subalterns, Two Serjeants, One Drum, and Seventy Rank and File of the 79th. Regiment, and 80 of the Legion, Officers in proportion, to proceed up the River this afternoon. Application to be immediately made for their proportion of Blankets, Camp Kettles, Tent Clothes and Kegs.

The Officer commanding the Detachment of the 79th. will call on board the Ulysses before he goes off.

Two of the four Artillery with 2 Howitzers, a Number of Live Shells and other Ammunition, with their

Beds and Traveling Carriages to be in readiness to be Embarked in Boats Immediately.

The Troops ordered to proceed up the River are Immediately to have 5 days' Bread and Meat Issued to them which is to be dressed as soon as possible. The Rum to be put on board one of the Boats for them. In order to prevent disputes about Command, the Detachment of the 79th. and Legion ordered up the river are to be Commanded by their respective Officers, and are not to Interfere with one another upon any account, but to proceed as Separate bodies, though always keeping so near as to support each other if Necessary.

St. John's Harbour, Saturday, 22d. April, 1780.

The Artificers of all sorts belonging to the different Corps to be landed to-morrow morning at daybreak at the Encampment, where they will receive their Orders from Lieut. Schomberg or Ensign Jessrick, Engineers. They are to be provided with Camp Kettles, Tent Clothes, &c.

A Working party of a Subaltern and 40 Men, from the Detachment of 60th. Regiment, to land at the Encampment to-morrow Morning at daylight ; they will receive their Orders from the Engineer.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 23d. April, 1780.

Parole England, C. S. St. George.

The want of Craft to bring up the Second Division of the Army has been the cause of not a Sufficient Quantity of Provisions arriving to give the troops full allowance. A Ration is therefore to consist of ¾ lb. of Beef or Pork in proportion, ¾ lb. of Flour or Bread, ½ Pint of Rum, Per Diem.

The Commander in Chief is sorry to be under the disagreeable necessity of continuing the troops at a Short allowance of Provisions, being sensible of the very great fatigue they are obliged to undergo from

the nature of the Service, but he assures them the Deficiency shall be made good, either in Money or Provisions, as soon as a Sufficient quantity arrives.

Two days' provisions for the troops of the 1st. Division, and One day's for the 2d., to be issued this evening and to-morrow Morning.

St. John's Harbour, Sunday, 23d. April, 1780.

The Men's Arms and Ammunition to be frequently examined and the greatest care taken of them. As nothing contributes more to the health of the Soldier than Cleanliness, the Officers Commanding Transports are requested to be particularly attentive to this very Essential part of their duty.

A Detachment of one Subaltern, two Serjeants, and 40 Rank and File, from the Regular Corps, to be landed to-morrow morning early, if the Weather is fair, and Hut near the Detachment Commanded by Lieut. Brown, of the 60th.; that Detachment will likewise make Huts for themselves, and will be Augmented to 50 Men, with Non-Commissioned Officers in proportion.

The Spare Ammunition belonging to the Detachment of 60th. Regiment to be put into 20 Boxes made for that purpose, which they will find on board the Venus or Monarch. Ensign Pine, of the Loyal Irish, to Command the Detachment ordered to land to-morrow.

All the Artificers from the different Transports to be at the mouth of the River to-morrow morning by daylight to attend the Sub Engineer with Ropes, ½ crown Nails and Plank.

Lieut. Charlton, of the 60th. Regiment, to Act as Assistant Quarter Master General till further orders.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 24th. April, 1780.

Parole Perth, C. S. Stirling.

The Guards and Detachments to be relieved this Evening.

St. John's Harbour, Monday, 24th. April, 1780.

Lieut. Harrison, of the Loyal Irish Corps, is to Command the Detachment ordered to land to-day instead of Ensign Pine.

Ensign Truster to superintend the Working party for making Huts.

Evening Orders, 10 o'Clock.

A Detachment of 16 Seamen, from the Legion, and an Officer to be ready to-morrow morning at daybreak to proceed up the River with five days' Provision for each Man.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 25th. April, 1780.

Parole Leith, C. S. Hamilton.

The Commissary will give only ½ lb. of beef or Pork in proportion for the daily allowance of Meat till further Orders.

Two days' provisions to be issued to the troops this Evening and to-morrow Morning.

St. John's Harbour, Tuesday, 25th. April, 1780.

A Working party of a Captain, two Subalterns, and 100 Men to be landed to-morrow morning at daybreak. They will receive their Orders from Ensign Jesserick, Engineer.

All Carpenters with their Tools, who can be spared from the Transports, to be landed at the same time, who are likewise to receive their Orders from the Engineer.

Should any Engineers' Tools be found by accident on board any of the Transports, a Report is to be made to the Brigade Major of the same as soon as possible. The Sawyers belonging to the different Corps to be landed at the Encampment to-morrow morning with the Working party, a Return of them to be made to Brigade Major Browne at 9 o'Clock.

The Commissary of Provisions to have a deposit at the Encampment and all Detachments on Shore; the Women and Children to receive their Provision

there as soon as a Return of their numbers is given in to the Brigade Major.

The Officers Commanding Working parties are desired to be very attentive to their duty; to see that their Men are constantly at Work during the proper hours, which are from daylight in the Morning till 9 o'Clock, and from 3 in the Afternoon till Sunset.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 26th. April, 1780.
Parole Port Glasgow, C. S. Greenock.

The Commander in Chief is sorry to be Obliged to take notice in this public manner of the Shameful neglect of Serjeant Murray in allowing his Guard to be surprised this morning and abandoning his post. He hopes the General Court martial which shall be ordered for this trial as soon as possible will take proper notice of so heinous a Crime, which not only brings a General disgrace on the Army, but endangers the safety of the Whole.

The Commander in Chief desires the Officers will take particular care that none of the men when on Duty are allowed to go to Sleep during the Night, and that they are under Arms from an Hour before daylight and till an Hour after, as directed in former Orders; part of each Guard may be allowed to Sleep during the day.

The Guards and Detachments to be relieved this Evening. The Regulars to furnish for Duty two Captains and five Subalterns. Volunteers, two Subalterns.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 27th. April, 1780.
Parole Kilmarnock, C. S. Dunbar.

Two days' provisions to be issued to the troops this Evening and to-morrow morning.

St. John's Harbour, Thursday, 27th. April, 1780.

Lieut. Harrison, of the Loyal Irish, to land his whole Detachment to-morrow morning early, and remain on Shore till further Orders. Lieut. Browne, of

the 60th. Regiment, being the Senior on Shore, will order proper Guards to be mounted, and such Sentries posted as he shall judge necessary for the Security of the Encampment, subject to such alterations as Col. Dalrymple may choose to make, whose orders are to be obeyed upon all occasions. When the Working parties quit Working, an Officer to see all the Tools collected and put under the Charge of Sentries, and every possible care taken that they are not broke or damaged, As the Rains retard the Work, and the Urgent necessity of the Service requiring the Battery to be erected on the Point should be finished with all dispatch. The Brigadier requests the Officers Commanding Working parties will take every opportunity of improving the Intervals of fair Weather that may happen, though they may offer during the Hours assigned for the Men to be at rest.

G. O. Post before St. John's, 28th. April, 1780.
Parole Ulysses, C. S. Resource.

The Guards to be relieved this Evening. The Regulars to furnish 2 Captains and 4 Subalterns. The Volunteers to furnish 2 Captains and 3 Subalterns.

St. John's Harbour, Friday, April 28th., 1780.

Capt. Schroter and 27 Men of the Legion to proceed up the River this Afternoon, with five days' Provision for each Man, two days of which to be dressed immediately. It having been represented to the Brigadier that a shameful neglect and Inattention has been observed in Officers Commanding Detachments, and that some of them have quitted their parties, by which means many irregularities have been committed, he thinks it necessary to Apprise Officers that a due obedience to orders and attention to their duty is so essentially necessary to carrying on the Service in a proper manner, that he will think it an indispensable part of his duty to take the Strictest Notice of all who shall disobey.

Officers should recollect that it is only from their example, care of Provisions, Stores of all sorts, &c., that an Expedition of the Nature of the one they are now engaged in is to be carried on with honour to themselves and Country.

St. John's Harbour, Saturday, 29th. April, 1780.

The Detachment of 60th. Regiment to proceed up the River to-morrow morning at 5 o'Clock ; boats will be sent to take them on board. Lieut. Charlton to remain till further Orders.

G. O. St. John's Castle, 30th. April, 1780.

Parole St. John, C. S. Success.

St. John's Harbour, Sunday, 30th. April, 1780.

An Officer and 16 Men of the Legion to be in readiness to proceed up the River immediately ; Craft will be sent to take them on board, which they are to Navigate. This party to take Provisions for Seven days ; no Women to be suffered to go up the River.

After Orders.

A Guard of a Corporal and 6 Men from the 60th. Regiment to be ready to come alongside the Horatio Transport at 6 o'Clock this Evening ; a boat will be sent for them. A Return of the Miners and Colliers of the different Corps to be given in to-morrow morning to the Brigade Major.

G. O. St. John's Castle, 1st. May, 1780.

Parole Sunderland, C. S. Newcastle.

The Spanish prisoners to be sent down the River to-morrow Morning.

A Guard Consisting of 1 Subaltern, 2 Serjeants, 2 Corporals, 4 Drummers, and 30 men to Escort them, Exclusive of the Seamen and Marines.

All the Marines on Duty to be sent this Evening to Camp.

The Regulars to furnish the Guard this Evening, Two Subalterns. Volunteers, Two Subalterns.

St. John's Harbour, Monday, May 1st., 1780.

Officers Commanding Detachments of Boats that may go up the River to be responsible for every Article that is put on board them; they will have lists of what is put on board each Boat, and will give Receipts for the same.

G. O. St. John's Castle, 2d. May, 1780.

Parole Strasburg, C. S. Dresden.

No person in future to fire in Camp or in the Vicinity of it.

The Prisoners to Embark on Board the Crafts early to-morrow Morning.

The Regulars to furnish for the Escort One Subaltern, One Serjeant, One Corporal, One Drummer and Eighteen Privates. The Volunteers, One Serjeant, One Corporal, and twelve Privates.

The whole to parade at day break to-morrow.

St. John's Harbour, Tuesday, 2d. May, 1780.

All the Men that can possibly be spared from the different Corps are to go on Shore at day break to-morrow Morning, in order to forward the Works carrying on there. As the Working party is increased, Capt. Dixon, of the 60th. Regiment, and Lieut. Harrison of the Loyal Irish, are for that duty.

St. John's Harbour, Wednesday, May 3d., 1780.

The order of the 21st., relative to Officers of the Regular Troops and Legion not interfering in Command, is to extend to all other Detachments that may hereafter go up the River in a similar situation, or till further Orders.

St. John's Harbour, Thursday, 4th. May, 1780.

A number of Sick Indians being ordered to land and Encamp near the Redoubt on the Point, The Officer Commanding on shore will give the Strictest

directions that the Soldiers do not interfere with or molest them in any respect whatever; He will likewise order Provisions to be Issued to them, care to be taken that a careful Serjeant is sent to make a Return of their numbers, that no more Rations may be drawn for than are Men present; A Surgeon to attend them daily and to Report a State of them to the Commanding Officer on every Monday.

Serjeant Gross, of 60th. Regiment, is to attend the Engineer till further Orders.

Evening Orders.

The Detachment of 60th. Regiment on board the Industry to be removed to the Horatio to-morrow morning as soon as possible, and the Troops on board the Monarch to prepare to go on board the Venus and Industry at a moment's warning.

St. John's Harbour, Saturday, 6th. May, 1780.

The Troops to be ready to proceed up the River at a Moment's warning; it is expected Officers will not overload the Boats, nor take more Baggage with them than is Absolutely necessary. Such Officers as go in Craft Navigated by Indians or Sambos are to be particularly careful that they are not ill used by the Soldiers; persuasion and mild Arguments have more weight than rough usage with them, and they will find their Account in it.

All the spare Ammunition to be taken the greatest care of and covered in the best manner possible, as well as the Men's Arms and Accoutrements. Such recovered Men as belong to Detachments up the River are to take the present opportunity of Joining, and will proceed with their own Corps now here.

St. John's Harbour, Sunday, 7th. May, 1780.

The six Blacks taken into the Service of Government belonging to Mr. Jones, being Sawyers by trade,

are immediately to be landed and delivered to the Engineer, who will employ them in Sawing Platforms for the Battery, &c.

It is the Brigadier's positive order that not any of the Craft are used by either Officer, Soldier, or Sailor to go on Shore with, or for any other purpose than that of the Public Service; the whole to be assembled to-morrow morning at 7 o'Clock at the Horatio, the Detachment that came down with the Prisoners to come in their own Craft at same time, with such Persons as may have assisted in the Navigation of them. Capt. Fotheringham having been so good as to promise that a number of Seamen should be landed from time to time to assist in erecting the Battery, the Officer Commanding the Working party will take care that a certain portion of Work is allotted them, and that they are not interfered with by any other parties.

Camp near St. John's Castle,
Tuesday, 16th. May, 1780.

It is Brig.-Gen. Kemble's positive orders that none of the Posts, Plank, or Timber in and about the Fort is destroyed or made use of for any other purpose than that of the Public Service. When the Troops want Fuel they are to fetch it from the Wood; and it is recommended to Officers Commanding Corps to order it to be done early in the morning. All Returns and Reports to be made to Brigade Major Brown during the Indisposition of Lieut. Mounsey, Adjutant General. All orders heretofore given by Col. Polson are to continue in force, and such other orders as he may think necessary to give in future are to be obeyed.

The Spanish Prisoners and Slaves in the Fort are to be employed in cleaning it of all Rubbish and Filth, as well as the Ditch and other places near it; The Officer of the Guard to be answerable this is done, and will give his directions accordingly. A Return of each Corps to be given in to-morrow morning to the Major of Brigade. The Adjutant, or an orderly Officer from

each Corps, to attend the Major of Brigade at 12 o'Clock every day to receive Orders.

Wednesday, 17th. May, 1780.

Col. Polson is appointed to Act as Quarter Master General to the Expedition, and will Command the Battalion of Regular Troops till further Orders.

Thursday, 18th. May, 1780.

All the Men in Camp, Convalescents as well as others, to attend morning and Evening Roll calling, with their Arms and Accoutrements. The Commanding Officers of Corps are requested to pay particular attention to this part of their duty, and direct that such Officers as are able do attend, to examine the Men's Arms, Accoutrements, and Ammunition, see that they are in proper order, and fit for immediate use. The necessity of the Service requires the Exertion of every Officer, not only to promote that proper discipline the situation of an Army advanced into an Enemy's Country makes so essentially necessary, but to contribute by their attention in the internal management of their Corps to the health of the Soldier; cleanliness, and a proper method of Cooking their provisions is very requisite, particularly at this time.

Officers Commanding Guards are not to quit their Posts on any account. All Guards to turn out an hour before daybreak, and continue under Arms till they can see distinctly and have a clear view of everything round them.

No Officer or Soldier to be suffered to remain in the Castle, but such as have permission from the General, or a public Officer by his order.

The Officer Commanding the Guard to be answerable that this order is obeyed. The Detachment of the Legion under Capt. Thomson's Command to Encamp immediately. Capt. Hallam, D. Q. M. General, will show them their ground. Dr. Thomas Dancer

is appointed to act as Physician to the General Hospital till further orders.

Friday, 19th. May, 1780.

A Court Martial of the line to sit this morning at 4 o'Clock to try all such Prisoners as shall be brought before them. The Battalion of Regulars to furnish 1 Captain and 1 Subaltern, the Jamaica Volunteers 1 Subaltern, and the Legion 2 Subalterns. The Serjeant's Guard at the Magazine not to permit any Boats to cross the River without an order from Gen. Kemble or a public Officer.

The Boats to be collected as near together as possible opposite the Commissary's store.

Head Quarters, 20th. May, 1780.

Parole Norway, C. S. Howe.

A Return of the strength of each Corps to be given in to-Morrow at 12 o'Clock to the Adjutant General after Orders.

All the Men off duty, with Drummers of the Line, to Parade to-Morrow Morning a Quarter before 8 o'Clock in front of the Battalion of Regulars to attend the Punishment of those Men tried this day by a Court Martial of the Line; Capt. Bulkeley, of the 79th. Regiment, to Act as Adjutant General during the absence of Adjutant General Mounsey.

G. O. Camp near St. John's Castle, 20th. May, 1780.

Parole Norway, C. S. Howe.

A State of each Corps and Detachment to be given to the Adjutant General at twelve o'Clock to-morrow.

G. O. Camp near St. John's Castle, 21st. May, 1780.

Parole Arbuthnot, C. S. Halifax.

It is Brig. Gen. Kemble's positive Orders that all men who Die are buried at least Sixty Yards beyond

the Magazine Tent, and that the People employed in making the Grave are particularly careful that it is not less than four feet deep.

A Captain of the day to attend Guard Mounting every Morning. He is to go round at Night and see that all Guards and Sentries are Alert, and to Visit the Hospital once a day, and report to the Commander in Chief every Morning immediately after Guard Mounting, at which time the Captain next for Duty will commence.

The Guards to parade half an Hour before Seven every Morning, and to march off precisely at Seven.

Captain for the day to-morrow, Capt. Polson.

G. O. Camp near St. John's Castle, May 22d., 1780.

Parole Blenheim, C. S. Woodstock.

The Commanding Officers of Corps are requested to make particular inquiry among their Men for such as understand burning Charcoal, and to send a Return of their Names to Mr. Despard, Engineer, immediately.

Necessary Places being made in front of the Encampment, No Soldier or other person whatever to Ease himself anywhere else. And as nothing Contributes more to the preservation of health than Cleanliness, Such as are found to disobey this Order may depend upon being Severely punished.

G. O. Camp near St. John's Castle, 23d. May, 1780.

Parole New Castle, C. S. Clinton.

All Soldiers employed as Artificers, and who really understand their Business, will from henceforward be allowed Five bits per day for the days they Work. The Engineer to keep a List of them and settle their Accounts every Saturday Evening, that there may not be any Complaints hereafter.

Commanding Officers are desired to Order all the Tools in possession of their Corps and near them to

be collected and given in charge of the Guard in the Centre of the Encampments. A List of them to be given the Serjeant and another to the Engineer, to whom Officers will apply when they want Tools for any Use in Camp, which they are requested to Return, as the loss of them would materially Injure the Service. The Serjeant of the Guard to put the different sort of Tools by themselves, have a List of them made out and given to the Serjeant who Relieves him, who will be answerable that none are taken away but by proper Authority. He will mention the Number of Tools in Charge of his Guard in his Report.

In consequence of an Official Letter from Major Cribb of the 79th. Regiment, to Capt. Bulkeley of same Corps, acquainting him that the following promotions have been notified by the Agent, Viz.: Capt. Lieut. Bulkeley to be Captain Vice Cribb, 12th. January, 1780; Lieut. Colvill, Captain Lieutenant Vice Bulkeley, Ditto; Ensign Schomberg, Lieutenant Vice Colvill, Ditto.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to order that these Gentlemen Rank accordingly.

States of each Corps to be given in every Morning at nine o'Clock to the Brigade Major.

The troops to beat every Morning at Seven o'Clock in the Morning till further Orders.

A Return of the Masons in each Corps to be sent to Major Brigade Browne immediately.

G. O. Camp Near St. John's Castle, 24th. May, 1780.

Parole Richmond.

The troops to receive two Days' provisions to-morrow, which Victuals them to the 27th., Inclusive. Officers Commanding Corps are desired to order their men to fetch their provisions either in the Morning early or in the Evening, as Carrying such great Burdens during the Heat of the day is very prejudicial to their Health.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Thursday, 25th. May, 1780.

Parole Calais, C. S. Dover.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Friday, 26th. May, 1780.

Parole Quebec, C. S. Hull.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Saturday, 27th. May, 1780.

Parole Dartmouth.

The Officer of the Castle Guard, and the Non-Commissioned Officers of the different Guards are frequently during the Night to Visit their Sentries, and be very particular that none are suffered on any account to sit down on their Posts; detected in doing it, they are immediately to be confined. The Officer of the Castle Guard to mention in his Report the different Hours He Visits his Sentries during the Night. The Non-Commissioned Officers to do the same in their Reports. The Troops to receive two days' provisions this Evening or in the Morning early, which Victuals to the 29th., Inclusive; they are by no means to fetch their provisions in the heat of the day.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Sunday, May 28th., 1780.

Parole Fort Edward, C. S. Leeds.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Monday, May 29th., 1780.

Parole Munster, C. S. Truro.

A Weekly state to be given in every Sunday at Orderly time, of each Corps, to the Brigade-Major in this State; the Number of Officers of each Rank present fit for duty, the Number sick in the same manner, the Non-Commissioned Officers, Drummers, and Pri-

vates to be mentioned, without taking Notice of those on Command. Casualties that happen by Deaths or Desertions between the giving in each state to be mentioned. A General Return to be given in every second Sunday at orderly time, accounting for every Man belonging to each Corps.

Lieut. Napier to give in immediately, to the Adjutant-General, A Return of the Number of made Cartridges for the Field Pieces, also of the Number of Cartridges for Musketry.

The Troops to receive two days' provisions this Evening and in the Morning early, which Victuals to the 31st.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Tuesday, 30th. May, 1780.

Parole Haldimand, C. S. Boston.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Wednesday, 31st. May, 1780.

Parole Plymouth, C. S. Derry.

No Non-Commissioned Officer, Soldier, or follower of the Camp is, on any pretence whatever, to presume to go hunting in the Woods without a pass from the Commanding Officer of the Corps to which he belongs; any Man disobeying this Order may depend on being severely punished. The Troops to receive two days' provisions this Evening or early to-Morrow Morning, which Victuals them to the 2d. of June Inclusive.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Thursday, 1st. June, 1780.

Parole Chepstow, C. S. Darbey.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Friday, 2d. June, 1780.

Parole Detroit, C. S. Oswego.

The Troops to draw two days' provisions this Evening or early to-Morrow Morning; they will then be

served for the 4th. Inst. All Men off duty to Parade to-Morrow Morning at Reveille beating for fatigue; they will parade on the General Parade, and will be under the direction of an Officer; the party to parade without Arms.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Saturday, 3d. June, 1780.

Parole Aberdeen, C. S. Bedford.

The Loyal Irish Corps to take the Castle Guard till further Orders; they will relieve the Guard now on to-Morrow Morning at Guard Mounting.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Sunday, 4th. June, 1780.

Parole The King, C. S. Wales.

The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for two days, Viz., the 5th. and 6th.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Monday, 5th. June, 1780.

Parole Britain, C. S. Ireland.

A Court Martial of the line, consisting of one Captain and four Subalterns, to sit to-Morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them. A Return to be given in to-Morrow at orderly time of the Number of Ball Cartridges wanting to complete the Battalion of Regulars and Jamaica Volunteers (fit for duty) to 30 Rounds per Man, and the Legion to 101 Rounds per Man. The Above Return to be sent to the Acting Adjutant-General. A Return to be given in as soon as possible of the Number of Coopers in each Corps.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Tuesday, 6th. June, 1780.

Parole Germain, C. S. Leith.

The scarcity of provisions at this place renders it

necessary that two-thirds allowance only of Beef, Pork and flour be issued to the Troops till further Orders. The Deficiency and any other Rations which the Officers, Soldiers, &c., may not choose to receive will in future be paid for by the Commissary to the Quarter Master of each Corps, Monthly, in the following proportions:

For every Ration of Beef or Pork, Jamaica Currency, 6; Ration of Flour, 6; Ration of Rum, 2. Total, 14.

The Commissary to issue provisions to the troops this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 8th. Inclusive. Capt. Lamb of the Indian department is appointed Sub-Engineer.

The Camp Guard to be reduced to one Serjeant, one Corporal and 15 privates till further Orders.

Camp Near St. John's Castle,
Wednesday, June 7th., 1780.

Parole Kilkenny, C. S. Cork.

The Soldiers' Tents to be struck or the sides of them taken up that they may be effectually aired as often as the Weather will permit; the trash they lay upon to be shifted at least twice a week and fresh got.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Thursday, 8th. June, 1780.

Parole Westmoreland, C. S. St. Ann's.

An opportunity will offer soon for Jamaica, all letters to be sent to the General's Quarters by to-Morrow Evening.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Friday, 9th. June, 1780.

Parole Granada, C. S. Leon.

The Loyal Irish Corps, Jamaica Volunteers and Jamaica Legion are formed into a Corps to be Commanded by Col. Dalrymple. The Detachment of the

60th. and 79th. to form a Battalion to be Commanded by Capt. Polson.

A Return of Carpenters in the different Corps to be given to the Adjutant-General at 6 o'Clock this Evening, specifying such as are fit for duty and such as are not.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Saturday, June 10th., 1780.

Parole Brompton, C. S. Banger.

The Commissary to issue provisions to the troops this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 11th. and 12th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Sunday, 11th. June, 1780.

Parole Albany, C. S. Hudson.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Monday, 12th. June, 1780.

Parole Plymouth, C. S. Exeter.

The General expects the different Corps will in future be more attentive in giving in All States and Returns called for at the time pointed out to them in the orders. The Commissary to issue provisions to the troops this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 13th. and 14th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Tuesday, 13th. June, 1780.

Parole Rodney, C. S. Gibraltar.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Friday, 14th. June, 1780.

Parole Pensacola, C. S. Mobile.

The Troops to hold themselves in readiness to proceed up the River at a Moment's warning. Returns of

the Numbers fit for duty of each Corps (Officers and Soldiers) to be given to the Adjutant-General to-Morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock. The Commanding Officers of Corps to be particularly careful that their Men are provided with as much Ammunition as their Pouches and Cartridge Boxes will hold.

A Return of the Tent Clothes of each Corps to be given into the Quarter Master General, accounting for the deficiencies if there are any.

It is requested that all Officers who are in possession of the Boxes which were taken out of the Castle will be particularly careful of them that they may be returned. The Troops to receive this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 15th. and 16th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Thursday, 15th. June, 1780.

Parole Campbell, C. S. Savannah.

On the arrival of any boat or boats the Senior Officer is immediately to wait on the General to report his Arrival, as well as any other boats that may have come up with him. In case there should not be a Commissioned Officer, the Non-Commissioned Officer or the Person Commanding the Boat at the time of its arrival is to follow the above directions. It is expected a greater attention is paid to this order and all others than what has been done hitherto, and that all Persons are more punctual on their Reports to the General.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Friday, June 16th., 1780.

Parole Prague, C. S. Spa.

The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 17th. and 18th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Saturday, 17th. June, 1780.

Parole Prussia, C. S. Berlin.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Sunday, 18th. June, 1780.

Parole Severn, C. S. Wye.

The Troops to receive this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning provisions for the 19th. and 20th. Instants.

A Return of Tent Cloths of each Corps to be given into the Quarter Master General, immediately accounting for deficiencies if there are any.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Monday, 19th. June, 1780.

Parole Flamborough, C. S. Epsom.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Tuesday, 20th. June, 1780.

Parole Lancaster, C. S. Oxford.

All Persons Commanding Boats that shall in future come up the River are immediately to Report the same to the Quarter Master General, and acquaint him what they brought up.

No boat whatever to be taken by any person of the different Corps, without a pass in writing from the Commanding Officer of such Corps.

The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 21st. and 22d. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Wednesday, 21st. June, 1780.

Parole Cambridge, C. S. Wilton.

Mr. Gerald Fitzgibbon is appointed an Assistant to the director of Crafts.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Thursday, 22d. June, 1780.

Parole Richmond, C. S. Eaton.

Such of the Legion as are to go in the Flat boat

are not to be put on duty till further orders. All the Spades, Shovels, Pick axes, Falling axes, and other intrenching Tools in possession of Officer or Soldier, to be sent immediately to the Carpenter's Shop; Officers Commanding Corps to be answerable this order is complied with. The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 23d. and 24th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Friday, 23d. June, 1780.

Parole Denbigh, C. S. Derby.

The Troops ordered to hold themselves in readiness to proceed up the River are to Parade to-Morrow Morning at 7 o'Clock near Col. Dalrymple's Tent.

All Officers who are capable of duty will parade with the Men of their respective Corps.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Saturday, 24th. June, 1780.

Parole Chepstow, C. S. Sidney.

The Commanding Officers of Corps to have a Return made out (and sent to Mr. Tripple, Conductor of Artillery) of the Number of Flints each Man Ordered for Service wants to complete him to three good ones. The Detachments of the 60th., 79th., and Loyal Irish Corps, to give in immediately a Return to the Acting Adjutant-General of the Number of their spare Arms fit for Service.

The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 25th. and 26th. Instants.

After Orders.

Capt. Thompson and as many of the Legion as can be Mustered to go on board the Flat boat to-morrow morning at six o'Clock, to remain there to do duty.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Sunday, 25th. June, 1780.

Parole Sandwich, C. S. Howe.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Monday, 26th. June, 1780.

Parole Brighthelmstone, C. S. Lewes.

The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 27th. and 28th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Tuesday, 27th. June, 1780.

Parole Cumberland, C. S. Halifax.

Brig.-Gen. Kemble is pleased to make the following appointments till the Commander in Chief's pleasure is known :

Jamaica Volunteers.—Lieut. and Adjutant John Pellet to be Captain vice Bertreand deceased 17th. May, 1780 ; Ensign Simon Booth to be Lieutenant vice Pellet 17th. May, 1780 ; John Faraquahr, Gentleman, to be Ensign vice Booth preferred 17th. May, 1780 ; Mr. Bryan Mighan to be Adjutant vice Pellet 26th. June, 1780 ; Mr. Wm. McDonald to be Quarter Master 26th. June, 1780.

After Orders.

A Man from each Corps that understands splitting and Cutting of Wood to be sent down to the Castle to be set at Work immediately. All falling axes and other Tools that are in possession of the Officers of the different Corps, to be sent to the Carpenter's shop immediately.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Wednesday, 28th. June, 1780.

Parole Bagshot, C. S. Hounslow.

The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 29th. and 30th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Thursday, 29th. June, 1780.

Parole Chelmsford, C. S. Witham.

The Burial place having become offensive by a shameful neglect in interring the Dead, The Brigadier is pleased to Order that every Corps bury their own, and that a Non-Commissioned is always to attend to see the grave is dug deep, and at a proper distance from the Waterfall, one Hundred from the Magazine, and close to the foot of the Hill.

A Return of the Fire Buckets in possession of the different Corps to be given in to the Adjutant-General to-Morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock. Officers Commanding Corps are requested to give the strictest directions that they are taken all possible care of.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Friday, June 30th., 1780.

Parole Brunswick, C. S. Hesse.

Distribution of Craft to the different Corps :

60th. Regiment.—No. 1, English ; No. 4, Spanish.

79th. Regiment.—No. 2, No. 6, English.

Loyal Irish Corps.—No. 1, Royal George ; No. 7, English ; No. 8, ——— ; No. 1, Spanish.

Jamaica Volunteers.—No. 4, No. 9, English.

Legion.—No. 3, English.

Carpenters, No. 2 ; Commissaries, No. 3 ; Hospital, No. 5,—Spanish.

The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 1st. and 2d. July.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Saturday, 1st. July, 1780.

Parole Cambridge, C. S. Sidney.

A Working party of one Subaltern and Thirty Men to parade this Evening at 5 o'Clock at the Magazine. The Store Keeper of Artillery or his Assistants will

attend to give them directions. The Detachments of the 60th. and 79th. to embark to-Morrow Morning at 7 o'Clock, a proportion of provisions, Artillery Stores, and Musket Cartridges to be put on board their Boats. Officers are requested to carry as little baggage as possible with them, and not to overload the Craft on any account.

After Orders.

Such Convalescents belonging to the different Corps as are not moved up the River and are best able to Mount Guard must relieve the Detachments of the 60th. and 79th. Regiments this Evening at Six o'Clock.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Sunday, July 2d., 1780.

Parole Westminster, C. S. London.

Should the Weather be fair, every Man off duty of the several Corps are to Parade at half past 4 o'Clock this Afternoon for Work; they will receive their Orders from Brigade Major Browne. Mr. Fitzgibbons, sub-director of Crafts, will make a Report in writing to Mr. Jones, store Keeper of Artillery, of such Crafts as are Allotted to receive the Artillery, which Mr. Jones will be answerable are put on board immediately.

After Orders.

All Officers who have any of the Boxes taken out of the Castle are to return them to the Conductor (Mr. Munro), as they are wanted for the Public Service. The Troops to receive provisions this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning for the 3d. and 4th. Instants.

The three Corps under the Command of Col. Dalrymple to furnish immediately seven Privates, who are to parade for Guard. The above Men are not to be taken from those going up the River, but convalescents not able to proceed. The Detachments from the 60th. and 79th. Ordered to embark to-Morrow Morning at seven o'Clock.

A working party, consisting of twenty Men to be under the Command of Capt. Lamb, Sub-Engineer, to Parade to-Morrow Morning at Reveille beating; The Loyal Irish Corps, Jamaica Volunteers, and Jamaica Legion to furnish the above party.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Monday, 3d. July, 1780.

Parole Salisbury, C. S. Wilton.

Col. Dalrymple's Corps to be in readiness to embark to-Morrow Morning at seven o'Clock; The Troops to receive full Allowance of Rum till further Orders. An Embarkation Return from each Corps to be given to the Adjutant-General immediately. Capt. Lamb and Mr. Fitzgibbons to collect all Men who are fit for Service and not attached to any Corps, that they may be distributed among the Boats. Ensign Caldwell, of the Royal Batteaux Men, will Join Capt. Lamb and do duty under his directions till further Orders. Capt. Lamb will apply to the Sub-director of Crafts for a Craft to carry the intrenching Tools belonging to the Engineer department. All the Men off duty of the different Corps to parade this Evening at half past 4 o'Clock for Work.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Tuesday, 4th. July, 1780.

Parole Garth, C. S. Leith.

Col. Dalrymple's Corps to Embark to-Morrow Morning at Six o'Clock, if the weather is fair, with their Camp Equipage, &c. The Officers and Men of the different departments attending the Troops to embark at the same time. Capt. Lamb and Mr. Fitzgibbons will be answerable that all the Men capable of Service, not belonging to Corps, are Warned and ready to proceed with the Troops.

Officers are requested to take as little baggage with them as they conveniently can dispense with. The

Troops to receive this Evening and early to-Morrow Morning provisions for the 5th. and 6th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Wednesday, 5th. July, 1780.

Parole Buckingham, C. S. Dorset.

The Troops and Officers of the different departments, &c., which were Ordered to embark this Morning will embark to-Morrow Morning at Six o'Clock. Mr. Hoskinson, Q. M. Serjeant to the Jamaica Volunteers, is appointed Deputy Commissary, and to attend the Troops going up the River; he will apply to Mr. Fitzgibbons for Craft to carry provisions, Rum, &c.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Thursday, 6th. July, 1780.

Parole Jamaica, C. S. Dalling.

His Excellency the Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the Following Promotion till the King's Pleasure is known:

1st. Battalion of the 60th. Regiment.—Mr. John Vernon, Volunteer, to be Ensign vice Jessevick dead.

The Troops to receive provisions this Evening or early to-Morrow Morning for the 7th. and 8th. Instants.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Friday, 7th. July, 1780.

Parole Marlborough, C. S. Woodstock.

His Excellency Gen. Dalling desires his thanks may be given to Capt. Polson and the Officers and Men who were employed at the Siege of St. John's Castle for their perseverance and steady Conduct during a tedious Service, by which the Reduction of so important a post was accomplished.

His Excellency is further pleased to Order that the Provincial Troops, when serving in conjunction with His Majesty's Regular Troops, shall Rank as youngest of

their respective Ranks according to His Majesty's Regulation for Provincial Troops serving in America, &c., &c.

Kemble's Camp, Sunday, July 9th., 1780.

Parole Nicaragua, C. S. St. John's.

Kemble's Camp, Monday, 10th. July, 1780.

Parole Bristol, C. S. Newark.

When the Troops move they will proceed in the following Order:

1st. Division.—Loyal Irish Corps, Legion, and Jamaica Volunteers under the Command of Col. Dalrymple.

2d. Division.—Engineers' Boat with Entrenching Tools, Artillery and Provision Boats, and all other Baggage Boats to follow, under the Command of the Chief Engineer, or in his Absence by Capt. Lamb.

3d. Division.—The Detachments of the 60th. and 79th. Regiments, under the Command of Capt. Polson. A light Craft or Pitpan with a number of spare hands to attend this Division in Order to give Assistance to any Craft that may fall behind and require their Aid. Should any part of the Troops be fired upon by the Enemy, the Officer Commanding the Division will Order a party to land and Attack them; but should he find the Enemy in too great force, he will retire with his Craft and Boats to the opposite side of the River, send immediate information to the Brigadier, and wait for Orders.

The Divisions to land and Encamp in the order they move, upon all occasions except directed to the Contrary, Officers Commanding to be answerable for this Order being punctually obeyed.

As soon as the Troops come to the place of Encampment, the Adjutant or an orderly officer from each Division is Immediately to repair to Head Quarters for Orders (at all other times), Orderly hour 10 o'Clock; and as a neglect in this part of the duty

has been frequently complained of, the Brigadier hopes he shall not have occasion to repeat it, or any other Order, nor will he suppose Officers capable of so much inattention as to neglect their duty in any respect, more especially when advancing towards the Enemy, as the Slightest omission may be productive of the worst consequence.

Col. Dalrymple and Capt. Polson will Post such Guards as they shall judge necessary for the Security of their respective Encampments, extending their Sentries to the Centre in Order to cover the 2d. Division of Boats, if necessary.

The Commissary of Provisions to be assisted with good and fresh hands from the following Corps: Jamaica Volunteers, Two; 60th. Regiment and Loyal Irish Corps, One each.

As soon as the Troops move from their present Encampment, No Discharging of Arms, Hunting or other firing of Muskets to be permitted on any account, and the most perfect Silence to be observed. Any man who shall dare disobey this Order may depend upon being severely punished.

The Soldiers' Arms and Ammunition to be Examined Immediately and put in the best Order; such as have not their Complement of Ammunition to be completed, and a report to be made to the Brigadier by Officers Commanding Corps when the whole are ready for Service, which must be this Evening.

Col. Dalrymple will dispose of the Gun Boat as he shall see best; the flat Boat whenever she can take her position just in the front of the 1st. Division.

When the Troops land, care should be taken that the Boats do not crowd too Close together, but room left for any one Boat to push off Singly; much Confusion will be avoided if this is attended to.

All the Sick of the Different Corps to be collected this afternoon at 5 o'Clock at the Encampment of the 60th. Regiment, when the Surgeon-General will examine them and report their state to the Brigadier.

After General Orders.

The Baggage to be put in the Craft at 5 o'Clock in the morning, and the whole to be ready to move off at half after.

Kemble's Camp, Tuesday, 11th. July, 1780.

Parole Pittsburg, C. S. Bedford.

As the Troops will probably remain in their present Encampment till to-Morrow, they will make themselves as comfortable as possible, but be ready to move at a moment's warning. The same Guards to Mount this Night as last Night.

A Picket of one Subaltern, one Serjeant, one Corporal, one Drummer, and 18 Privates to Mount this Night, the Subaltern to Visit the Guards and Sentries and see that they do their duty properly, and will report to the General in the Morning.

After General Orders.

It is recommended to the Troops to be as careful as possible of their Provisions, as there is very little in store, and they may be obliged to live a day longer than was proposed on the Allowance they have received, though the General hopes they will not be put to this necessity, as he positively can assure them a supply arrived a few days ago at the lower Falls, and has dispatched a Pitpan for a Load. It is also Recommended to them to provide Masts, Yards, and Sails for each Craft; the latter, in case of necessity, may be made of Blankets, and will save the Men much labour.

Kemble's Camp, Wednesday, 12th. July, 1780.

Parole Charles Town, C. S. Boston.

The same Picket to Mount as last Night.

Kemble's Camp, Thursday, 13th. July, 1780.

Parole Hannau, C. S. Hesse.

A State of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Offi-

cers, and Private Men of the different Corps to be given in to-Morrow at 12 o'Clock, in which they are to include those on board the flat Bottom boat and any of the Craft that are already gone up the River.

Officers are reminded of the necessity for their particular Attention to the Men's Ammunition, and to see all possible care taken of it. The Guard and Picket as Usual.

After General Orders.

One day's Provisions to be issued to the Troops early to-Morrow Morning for the 14th. Inst., each Corps to send their provision Returns this Evening to the Quarter Master General. The Troops to receive full allowance of Rum, and this order to be acknowledged by the Officers Commanding Corps by writing their names on the back, and to be returned by the Legion to the Quarter Master General.

Kemble's Camp, Friday, 14th. July, 1780.

Parole Huntington, C. S. Rawdon.

After General Orders.

One day's provisions to be issued to-Morrow Morning for the 15th. Inst., and be returned early in the Morning, the Return to be sent to the Quarter Master General, and the Officers to be particular as to the Numbers.

Kemble's Camp, Saturday, 15th. July, 1780.

Parole Kensington, C. S. Lambeth.

The Picket to be reduced to one Serjeant, one Corporal, and Nine Privates, who are to join the Guard when Paraded in the Evening, and to do duty with them till Six o'Clock in the Morning, when the Serjeant of the Picket will parade them, and give them directions to put by their Arms, after rubbing them

well, and to wear their side Arms and Accoutrements all day, and not stir out of Camp, but be ready to turn out and Join the Guard on any Alarm; an Officer of the day to Mount daily, and to Visit the Guard and Sentries by Night and Report any extraordinaries in the Morning After General Orders.

Some small shot being sent from the Castle, each Corps will pick out the following Number of Men best calculated for Hunters, Viz.:

60th. and 79th. Regiments, 4 Men; Loyal Irish Corps, 6; Jamaica Volunteers, 2; Jamaica Legion, 2. Total, 14 Men.

A boat will be ready for them at the General's Tent at 6 o'Clock to-Morrow Morning, where the whole is to parade.

A Boat with provisions having evidently gone down the Falls at the Castle has reduced the Necessity of subsisting on Callavances instead of Flour for a day or two till provisions come up, which the General again assures the Troops, in the most positive manner, is arrived at the Falls below the Castle, and may be hourly expected.

A day's provisions to be issued to-Morrow Morning as early as possible, returns to be sent accordingly to the Quarter Master General, at 6 o'Clock this Evening.

If the Weather is tolerably fair, the encampment will be exchanged to-Morrow, the Baggage to be put in the boats accordingly, and the whole to move at 8 o'Clock in the Morning.

Kemble's Camp, Sunday, 16th. July, 1780.

When the Craft move, they are to keep the position Ordered the 10th. inst.

The Corps that furnished Men for the Store Keeper of Artillery and Hospital Boats, to send the Men to them, so as to prepare them to move off with the Rest.

The Commissary of provisions also to be furnished with Men, ordered for his Craft by the Order of the 10th. inst. No Officer is to send a Soldier or Soldiers a hunting without permission from the General; and then

they must provide a Guide or Woodsman, to prevent their losing themselves in the Woods.

Polson's Camp, Sunday, 16th. July, 1780.
Parole Gloucestershire, C. S. Monmouth.

The First Division to furnish A Guard of one Serjeant, two Corporals, and 12 Privates, and to Mount on the left of the first Division, and their Sentries to Extend from the Right of the 2d. Division, to the General's Tent. The Third Division to Mount a Corporal and Six Privates, and to have Sentries from their own Right to their Left.

Officer for the day, Ensign Turner, of the Jamaica Volunteers.

One day's Provisions to be issued to the Troops early to-Morrow Morning, the Returns to be sent this Evening to the Quarter Master General.

A Working party of one Serjeant, one Corporal, and 15 Privates, to parade to-Morrow Morning in the Rear of the General's Tent, at Six o'Clock, with Hatchets, and to cut a Communication from the right of the first Division to the left of the 3d. Division. The Subaltern of the day will give them Directions.

The 1st. Division to furnish one Serjeant and 12 Privates; the 3d. Division to furnish one Corporal and 3 Privates.

Polson's Camp, Monday, 17th. July, 1780.
Parole Norwich, C. S. Derby.

The First Division to send an Orderly Man to the General's this afternoon at Guard Mounting. The First Division to furnish the Officer for the day.

After General Orders.

The Troops to receive early to-Morrow Morning one day's provision as follows, viz.: ½ lb. Pork, 6 ozs. Flour, one Pint of Corn per Man.

Polson's Camp, Tuesday, 18th. July, 1780.

Parole Parker, C. S. Notham.

In case of an Alarm in Camp the Troops to form on their own Ground, fronting to the Woods, and wait for Orders.

All Men that go Hunting to discharge their Pieces before they Return, and no firing to be permitted in or near the Encampment on any pretence whatever.

After Orders.

The Troops to receive one day's Provisions and Rum to-Morrow Morning in the same proportion as Ordered for this day, the Returns to be made to Commissary, and any alterations to be particularly marked on the back of the Return.

Polson's Camp, Wednesday, July 19th., 1780.

Parole Ireland, C. S. Dublin.

Brig.-Gen. Kemble is pleased to make the following Promotion till the Commander in Chief's pleasure is known :

Jamaica Legion.—Ensign Colburn to be Lieutenant vice Fanning deceased.

The First Division to furnish the Officer for the day. Where Officers are so much indisposed as not to be able to see whether their Men's Muskets are well covered, it is expected that they do make particular inquiry of their Non-Commissioned Officers, and to Order it to be done immediately if neglected. Mr. Rust, Mr. McIntire, and Mr. Alexander are appointed Surgeons' Mates in the General Hospital ; the dates of their Commissions will be ascertained hereafter.

After Orders.

The Troops to receive one day's Provisions to-Morrow Morning at the following Rates, viz. : 2 ozs. of Pork, 9 ozs. of Flour, 1 Pint of Corn, per Man.

Returns to be made for the Commissary as directed for this day. The General has the strongest reason to expect a supply of provisions will arrive before to-Morrow Evening, but he recommends to those who can save Pork out of the usual allowance issued to do it, as there is some Corn and Flour remaining, but little Pork.

Polson's Camp, Thursday, July 20th., 1780.

Parole Windsor, C. S. Eaton.

The half Monthly Returns directed to be made to the Adjutant-General, in the Orders of the 29th. May, to be sent to the Brigadier punctually, for the future, in the absence of the Adjutant-General and Major of Brigade.

After Orders.

The Troops to receive two days' provisions to-Morrow Morning, at the following Rates, viz.: 6 ounces of Pork. 7 ounces of Flour, ½ pint of Corn, per Man.

Polson's Camp, Friday, 21st. July, 1780.

Parole Glasgow, C. S. Aberdeen.

Polson's Camp, Saturday, 22d. July, 1780.

Parole Highmeadow, C. S. Firle.

After General Orders.

A Return to be given in by each Corps at 2 o'Clock of the number of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Private Men Actually fit for real Service. The Sick of the different Corps to hold themselves in readiness to go down the River this afternoon.

After Orders, 3 o'Clock.

The Sick Officers and Men going down to the Castle to receive one day's provisions for the 23d. Inst. this night. The Commissary has a Return of the Numbers

the Surgeon-General has Returned to go down from each Corps.

After General Orders, 5 o'Clock.

The Sick Officers and Soldiers marked by the Surgeon-General to go down to the Castle to be ready to embark to-Morrow Morning at 6 o'Clock. The boats will be at the Commissary of Provisions Craft, a non-Commissioned Officer of each Corps to Attend and see the Soldiers Embark. Mr. Fitzgibbon to attend and see each Craft are ready. The different Corps to have a Review of Arms, Accoutrements, and Ammunition to-Morrow Morning at 10 o'Clock, or any Hour after that the Weather will Permit.

The Troops remaining in Camp to receive to-Morrow Morning one day's Provisions for the 23d. Inst. Gen. Kemble has been pleased to appoint Ensign Henry Caldwell, of The Royal Batteaux Volunteers, to be assistant to the Director of Crafts, and is to be obeyed as such.

Polson's Camp, Sunday, 23d. July, 1780.

Parole Portsmouth, C. S. Gosport.

Complaints having been made that Soldiers take the thwarts out of the Craft, by which means many of them are lost, it is the General's positive Orders that it is not done in future.

The Troops to receive two days' provisions at 3 o'Clock this afternoon ; the Craft to be loaded at half past Five to-Morrow Morning, and the whole to be ready to move off at Six in the same Order as directed the 10th. Inst.

The sending away the sick may make some alteration in Manning the Craft.

The Officers Commanding Corps will take care that the necessary distribution of their men is made this day, that there may be no confusion when they move from thence.

The 1st. Division to send the General an Orderly Man this Evening at Guard Mounting.

After General Orders.

The Loyal Irish Corps to furnish two good Rowers for the Powder Boat, besides the two which they have in her now.

The Corps Ordered to Man the Provision Craft the 10th Inst., to take care that they provide the same number of good Men for her this Evening.

Dalling's Point, Monday, 24th. July, 1780.

Parole Spa, C. S. Bath.

The Troops to receive two days' provisions immediately, which they are to Cook this Evening. No Fires to be made, after to-Morrow Morning, should we leave this Ground, except after Dark, and to be put out at Ten o'Clock at night. The Officer of the day to go round the Encampment at half-past Ten, see the Fires Extinguished and make his Report to the Brigadier when he had gone his Round.

The Camp Guard to be Immediately formed and to be posted at the Head or Front of the Division as heretofore.

The orders of the 10th. inst., relating to the Firing of Muskets or other Arms, to be read to the Soldiers, and all others to be acquainted with it, that they may not pretend ignorance.

The Gun Boat to be laid in such a position as to b shoved off immediately if occasion should require. Her Ammunition and other apparatus to be prepared and everything to be ready for Service.

The Troops to be ready to turn at a moment's warning; the boat to be loaded and ready to push off at half-past five to-Morrow Morning.

Such Men as are unfit for immediate Service to Assemble this Afternoon at five o'Clock, at the Commissary's boat, when they will be inspected by the Surgeon

General. A Non-Commissioned Officer of each Corps to attend.

Dalling's Point, Tuesday, 25th. July, 1780.

The Troops will Embark at half after seven o'Clock, at which time the long Roll will beat; they are to row in the same manner as formerly Ordered, except the Gun Boat; directions will be given what station she is to take. Capt Polson will be at the front when they come to move off, to give further Orders if necessary.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Wednesday, 26th. July, 1780.

Parole Dartmouth, C. S. North.

Morning General Orders.

The State of each Corps, signed by the Commanding Officer, to be sent to Capt. Sheldon at 10 o'Clock this forenoon, Non-Commissioned and Private Men as may be Ordered down the River this forenoon. The Troops that were in Garrison and Hospital to receive Provisions immediately for the 27th. Inst., which will put them on a footing with the Troops that came down the River Yesterday.

General Order.

The General has observed with great satisfaction the Spirit and Emulation which the Soldiers have shown on the late Embarkation, and he promises himself every possible success from their services, convinced that Troops who have manifested the noblest sentiments will go through every fatigue and danger with equal Magnanimity. A prompt obedience to the commands of their Officers and attention to their duty are essentially necessary to secure success, and it is by the superiority of their discipline we are to reap the greatest advantages. Impressed with this Idea, he flatters himself each Soldier will strive to distinguish himself, and show how

superior disciplined and well-bred Troops are to a motley Crew of Indians and Mulattoes.

A Return of such Sick of the different Corps as do not embark this Evening, to be sent to Capt. Sheldon to-Morrow Morning at 8 o'Clock.

Serjeant Hodskinson, of the Jamaica Volunteers, is appointed to Act as Commissary in the room of Mr. Calderhead, who has obtained leave to go down the River for the recovery of his health.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Thursday, the 27th. July, 1780.

Parole Southampton, C. S. Essex.

The Troops to receive two days' Provisions to-Morrow Morning early, at the following rates, Viz.: 6 Oz. Pork, 6 Oz. Flour, and ½ Pint of Corn.

Lieut. and Adjutant Campbell, of the King's Royal Batteaux Volunteers, is appointed deputy Muster Master for the Troops on the Spanish Main.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Wednesday, July 28th., 1780.

Parole Middlesex, C. S. Kent.

The Detachments of the 60th., 79th., L. I. Corps, Jamaica Volunteers, and Legion to parade this afternoon, at half past 4 o'Clock, in front of the Hospital; The Officers to Attend, and to have particular Returns made out accounting for their absentees.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle, 29th. July, 1780.

Parole Salisbury, C. S. Wilton.

Officers are forbid on any pretence to take the Craft, Pitpans, or Dories from the Water Side, or to send Soldiers into the wood above a Mile, without permission from the officer Commanding, who will, upon proper application, indulge them as far as is consistent with the good of the Service. The Troops to receive

two days' provisions to-Morrow Morning early. Corn will be issued in the room of Flour, and the General flatters himself the Soldiers who showed so noble an Emulation and spirit during the time of distress for provisions up the River will not repine now at living a few days upon food they have not been accustomed to ; he has not a doubt but provisions is arrived at the Falls, and a Pitpan is dispatched to bring it up ; he has also sent for Plantains to contribute to their present relief.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Sunday, 30th. July, 1780.

Parole Blenheim, C. S. Woodstock.

Lieut.-Col. Sir Alexander Leith is appointed to the Command of the Garrison of St. John's Castle, and is to be Obeyed accordingly. Capt. Collins is appointed to take the Command of the Armed Vessel, Lord Germain, till further Orders. The Officers who are not to remain as part of the Garrison, and are to go down the River, as well as the remainder of the sick, will Embark at 3 o'Clock this afternoon at the old Fort, where a Craft is ready to receive them.

Head Quarters, St. John's Castle,
Monday, 31st. July, 1780.

Parole Discipline, C. S. Obedience.

Complaint having been made that some Surgeons' Mates are not only negligent in their duty, but disobey the Commands of their Superior Officer apparently with design and through obstinacy, The General therefore thinks it incumbent on him to apprise these Gentlemen that a due obedience to the Orders they may receive from their superiors in office is equally expected from them in any other line of Department ; that a repetition of such behaviour will be taken the strictest notice of and punished in a most exemplary manner.

Acting Ensign Wardel of the 79th. is appointed Adjutant to the Garrison and Castle of St. John's.

The Troops to receive two days' provisions this Evening and to-Morrow Morning. The Commissary to issue two good Plantains and three Bananas, and a Quart of Corn per Man in lieu of Bread kind. The Residue of the Plantains and Bananas to be reported to the Commanding Officer, who will dispose of them as he shall think proper.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 5th. August, 1780.

Parole Temple.

Officers Commanding Corps or such as are able to attend to their duty will immediately get Returns prepared of their Men, specifying such as are Well, such as are in a Convalescent state, and such as are Objects for a General Hospital, and give the same to the Acting Adjutant-General, Capt. Bulkeley, on the 7th., at 10 in the Morning; they will likewise specify which ships they are on board of, or whether on shore. Such Officers as can collect Men willing to make Huts for their own Corps are desired to do it, and upon application to Capt. Polson, Quarter Master General, Boats will be furnished to land them at the place of encampment pointed out, and if any assistance can be given them, they may depend upon having it. The utmost care and attention to keep the ships clean is absolutely necessary for the preservation of the Men's Health. When Soldiers Land to go to their Huts, care should be taken that they bring their Arms and Accoutrements, Camp Utensils, &c., with them.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 6th. August, 1780.

Parole Chichester.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 7th. August, 1780.

Parole Grey.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 8th. August, 1780.

Parole Cornwallis.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 9th. August, 1780.

Parole Grantham.

All Officers of the different Corps, whose Health will permit, will attend the Brigadier to-Morrow Morning at 11 o'Clock, at His Quarters on shore ; a boat will be sent for them at half past Ten.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, August 11th., 1780.

Parole Swanzey.

A Return of the Negroes who are Soldiers, and upon the strength of the different Corps, to be given to the Acting Adjutant-General to-Morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock. Such as are absent to be mentioned where, and those present to be particularly mentioned. All Negroes (Attending Officers) belonging to the Black River Company, or otherwise employed, to be reported at the same time.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Saturday, August 12th., 1780.

Parole Monmouth.

Capt. Patterson is appointed Chief Director of Crafts, till the Commander in Chief's pleasure is known. Commission dated 23d. June, 1780.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Sunday, 13th. August, 1780.

Parole Sherriffe.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Monday, 14th. August, 1780.

Parole Hampton.

All requisitions for Men made by Capt. Patterson, Chief Director of Crafts, to the Jamaica Legion and Royal Battalion Volunteers, to be immediately com-

plied with. Capt. Despard, of the 79th. Regiment, to take the Command of the Troops at the Point, and will give such orders as he may think necessary for their Regulations, &c., &c. A General Return from each Corps, accounting for all Absentees, to be given into the Acting Adjutant-General the 16th. at 10 o'Clock in the Morning; those Absent on Command to be particularly specified by a B at the bottom of the Return mentioning where they are.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Tuesday, 15th. August, 1780.

Parole Gosport.

The Troops in this Harbour not having been supplied with fresh Provisions in such quantities as might have been expected, from the generous advance put upon the prices to be paid for Poultry and Stock of all kinds by a board of Officers, in consequence of an Order from Col. Dalrymple in May last, Brig.-Gen. Kemble therefore thinks proper to Annul the Regulations established by the said board of Officers, and to Order a free and open Traffic be Allowed all adventures, and others that may arrive in the Harbour with fresh Stock, &c., &c., for the use of the Troops, Void of all restrictions whatever but that of Reporting their Arrival and the quantity and quality of their Cargoes to the Quarter Master General, who will give them permission for selling the same; and as all followers of the Army may not be acquainted that they are subject to Military Law, Notice is hereby given that they are entitled to land and dispose of their effects with the Sanction of the Commanding Officer only, and that they are subject to severe penalties for a disobedience of this or any other Order. The Commanding Officer of Corps or Detachments that are in want of necessaries for their Men may be supplied at the following rates on Board the Ship Hope, by Mr. Johnston, on Saturday, the 18th. Instant, Viz.:

⅞ Wide Sheets (White), 15*s.* 6*d.*; Yard Wide Sheets (White), 16*s.*; Check Shirts, 11*s.* 9*d.*; Stockings, 8*s.* 3*d.*; Shoes, 14*s.* 9*d.*

The General desires the Commanding Officers of Corps will provide their Men properly with Necessaries to enable them to do their duty, but particularly with Shoes and Stockings.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Wednesday, 16th. August, 1780.

Parole Cornwallis.

The Commanding officers of Corps and Detachments to have their Arms and Accoutrements collected immediately, and a Return of them to be given into the Acting Adjutant-General, on Friday, 25th. Inst.

A Weekly Guard from the different Corps to Mount to-Morrow Morning at 8 o'Clock at Head Quarters. They will bring their Provisions with them.

Detail 60th. Regiment, 1 Serjeant, 4 Privates; 79th. Regiment, 1 Corporal, 4 Privates; L. I. C., 1 Corporal, 4 Privates. Total, 1 Serjeant, 2 Corporals, 12 Privates.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Thursday, 17th. August, 1780.

Parole Warwick.

Each Corps to send all their Convalescents with a Non-Commissioned Officer, to-Morrow Morning at daybreak, to gather thatch and other Materials for building their Huts, the boats appointed to the different Corps to be used for that Purpose.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Friday, 18th. August, 1780.

Parole Tweed.

A Survey of provisions to be held to-Morrow Morning at 7 o'Clock on board the sloop Success; Capt. Parke of the Royal Batteaux Volunteers, Mr. Johnston in the Commissary's department, and the Master of the Julia for

this duty. Capt. Parke will make a Report to the Brigadier of the same.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Saturday, 19th. August, 1780.

Parole Dartmouth.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Sunday, 20th. August, 1780.

Parole Aberdeen.

Mr. Saunderson is appointed Apothecary to the General Hospital. His appointment to take place from the 10th. June, 1780.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Monday, 21st. August, 1780.

Parole Farnham.

Tuesdays and Fridays being the days appointed for the Troops to receive their provisions, the General desires that the different Corps are very particular in attending to the drawing days, as provisions in future will not be issued but on the days mentioned. An Officer or a careful Non-Commissioned Officer to attend to receive it, with a Return signed by the Commanding Officer. The 60th. Regiment and Jamaica Volunteers to give in a Return immediately to the Acting Adjutant-General of the Number of Men fit to Embark.

Officers are requested to be careful in writing on Public matters, as some of their letters have been very exceptionable, and have given uneasiness to Private People; they may not be aware that they are injuring themselves in so doing, by preventing Levies of Irregulars, who are the People to take every load and Drudgery from the Soldier, and to contribute to their ease. The Rum and Salt Ration for the Men in the General Hospital to be stopped, as Wine, Sugar, etc., will be issued in lieu of it.

As soon as the Corps have given in their Returns, distinguishing the Sick from the Well, the latter will receive a proportion of Sugar, Coffee, &c.

G. O. Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Tuesday, 22d. August, 1780.

Parole Cumberland.

All the Carpenters' Tools to be immediately given to Mr. Wright, Master Carpenter, or if he is not able to receive them, to Mr. Melvill, who will take charge of and be answerable for them. Deficiencies to be accounted for, if any delivered out, to whom and for what use.

After Orders.

One day's Allowance of Turtle will be issued to the Troops to-Morrow Morning at 9 o'Clock, near Mr. Jones's Hut. Capt. Despard will order half a pound per Man to be delivered to Mr. Gallagher for the use of the Hospital; the like quantity to be sent on board the Industry and Penelope, for 25 Men on Board the former and 21 on board the latter, to be delivered to the Surgeons' Mates on board those Vessels.

Such Officers and Men as are in Health, as well as those on this side the Water, will receive at same time and place one pound per Man. Capt. Despard will Countersign the Returns of the Troops at the Point and for those on board the Vessels; the Quarter-Master or Commissary-General, those on this side the Water. The Returns to be sent in as early as possible in the Morning, and the boats belonging to the Corps, with their Quarter-Masters or a careful Serjeant, to attend, to receive their proportion of Turtle. The Troops will then be victualled for the 25th. Inclusive.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Wednesday, 23d. August, 1780.

Parole Wimbledon.

The Troops to attend to-Morrow Morning, at the

same time and place as to-day, to receive one day's Allowance of Turtle.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Thursday, 24th. August, 1780.

Parole Westmoreland.

All the Serviceable cartridges belonging to the Sick to be given to such Men as are fit for duty, and a Return to be given in immediately to the Acting Adjutant General of the quantity wanting to complete each Well Man to 45 Rounds.

After Orders.

The Troops to receive one day's Allowance of Turtle to-Morrow, at the same hour and place as before, and four days' Rum and Flour on board the Penelope.

Returns to be sent in as early as possible.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Friday, 25th. August, 1780.

Parole Monmouth.

Such Officers as are in possession of Tarpawlings (not their own property) are desired to send them in immediately to Capt. Patterson, Chief Director of Crafts, as they are much wanted for the Public Service.

The Troops to receive one day's Allowance of Turtle to-Morrow at the usual place.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Saturday, 26th. August, 1780.

Parole Lincoln.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Sunday, 27th. August, 1780.

Parole Stafford.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Monday, 28th. August, 1780.

Parole Harcourt.

The Troops to receive one day's allowance of Turtle

to-morrow morning at the usual hour and place. They will also receive on board the Brig Julia: 5 lb. Muscovada Sugar, 4 lb. Coffee, 1 lb. Tobacco, with pipes, per Man.

When Salt Provisions are not issued, the Troops will receive ½ lb. Beef or Pork in proportion; Beef to be issued one half the Week, and Pork the other. Also, 1 lb. Flour, 1 Pint Pease, ½ Pint of Rum, per Man per day; and 1 Pint Vinegar per Week.

All applications that Officers may have to make to the General must come from the Commanding Officers of the Corps to which they belong; no attention will be paid to Applications through any other Channel.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Tuesday, 29th. August, 1780.
Parole London.

The Officers in the several Departments to give into the Acting Adjutant-General, the 8th. next Month, a Return of Stores in each Department, distinguishing the good from such as may be damaged or spoilt. The Chief Director of Crafts will mention what Craft, Pitpans, and Dories are in his Charge and their Condition.

The Conductor of Artillery will particularize the good Ammunition from such as may be entirely spoilt, and such as may be recoverable, also the Artillery with their Carriages, &c., &c., and the State they are in.

The Sick on Board the Industry and Penelope to be removed on Shore to-morrow; they will be examined by a Surgeon, and such as are very bad to be sent to the Point where the Hospital is Established, the remainder on the opposite side.

The Corps will send their own Boats to receive their Men at two o'Clock.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Wednesday, 30th. August, 1780.
Parole Kingston.

The Troops to receive one day's Allowance of Turtle to-morrow at the same hour.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Thursday, 31st. August, 1780.

Parole Westminster.

Andrew Gaynon, Acting Corporal of Loyal Irish Corps, tried by Court Martial of the Line for having carelessly permitted a Craft to go adrift during his Guard, is found Guilty of neglect of duty and Sentenced to receive one hundred lashes.

The General Approves of the Sentence, but, at the Recommendation of the Court, is pleased to remit the Punishment, and to order the Prisoner to his Corps.

The Troops will receive one day's Allowance of Turtle to-morrow morning at the usual hour and place.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
Friday, 1st. September, 1780.

Parole Dartmouth.

Capt. Davis, of the Volunteers, to Act as Quarter Master General during the absence of Quarter Master General Polson, and is to be obeyed as such.

The Sick on Board the Penelope not having been removed as directed in the Orders of 29th. August, the Brigadier desires it may be done immediately, and that the Commanding Officers of such Corps as have neglected this duty to report their reasons for same in writing.

A Guard of a Corporal and 3 Men from the Troops near Capt. Macdonald's Jamaica Volunteers, with two days' Provisions, to be at Head Quarters at 2 o'Clock this afternoon.

Capt. Davis, Jamaica Volunteers, to take the Command of the Detachment of 60th. Regiment till further Orders.

The Troops to receive one day's Allowance of Turtle to-morrow morning at the usual place.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
2d. Sept., 1780.

Parole Harrington.

The Detachment of 60th. and 79th. Regiments, Loyal

Irish Corps, and Jamaica Volunteers are formed into Battalion, and to be Commanded by Capt. McDonald, Jamaica Volunteers, who will order a Return of Ammunition wanting to complete the well men to 36 Rounds per Man, to be sent to Head Quarters as soon as possible.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
3d. Sept., 1780.

Parole Clinton.

Mr. Tripple, Conductor of Artillery, to be at Head Quarters at 8 o'Clock to-morrow morning, to issue out Cartridges, agreeable to a Return of Capt. McDonald's, who will send men to receive them.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour,
4th. Sept., 1780.

Parole Oxford.

It Having been represented that some Officers give as a reason for their not complying with General Orders their not having seen them, the Brigadier Informs all such as are so Ignorant of their duty that their very Excuse is a neglect of it, that they are reprehensible for the same, and is determined to put the first Officer in Arrest who is deficient in his duty or Inattentive to Orders hereafter.

A Working party from the Jamaica Legion and Royal Batteaux Corps, to Consist of 1 Corporal and 6 Men, to attend Mr. Tripple, Conductor of Artillery, at 3 o'Clock this Afternoon, and Continue with him to remove the Artillery Stores to the other side of the river. Captain Polson will furnish him with a Canoe for that Duty.

To-morrow, the 5th. Inst., will be issued from on board the Brig Penelope, Rations for 3 days, to consist of Half Rations of Pork, 1 lb. Flour, ½ pint Pease, 1 pint Wine per Man per day; 1 pint Vinegar per Man per week; and on Friday, 8th., at same place, will be Issued for four days, ½ lb. Beef, 1 lb. Flour, 1 oz. Ver-

micelli per day, 1 pint Wine per man per day. Rations for the Sick in the Hospital to be Issued agreeable to the Return of the Surgeon General or Doctor Gallagher. N.B. 1 oz. Vermicelli, boiled with a small Quantity of Beef, makes a healthy and Agreeable Soup.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 5th. Sept., 1780.

Parole Cambridge.

Officers Commanding Corps, who have had Sick men on board the Different Transports, are desired to have their Arms, Accoutrements, etc., collected as soon as possible.

After Orders.

The Jamaica Legion and Royal Batteaux Corps, to parade to-morrow morning at 8 o'Clock ; Officers to Account for those absent on Duty, and a Return of the Sick, Signed by a Surgeon, to be given in at same time.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 6th. Sept., 1780.

Parole Bedford.

A Packet will sail for Jamaica to-morrow or the day after.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbor, 7th. Sept., 1780.

Parole Arundel.

A State of each Corps and Detachment to be given to Capt. Davis, Acting Quarter-Master General, on the 1st. and 15th. of every month, Accounting for all Casualties that may have happened from one Period to the other. The Return of the 15th. Inst. to Account for all Casualties since last Return, and the men on Command to be Accounted for in the same manner as directed on the 16th. August last. All Returns for Provisions to be signed on the preceding evening to the Issuing day,

which will enable the Troops to receive their Provisions early in the Morning.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 8th. Sept., 1780.
Parole Harlaem.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 9th. Sept., 1780.
Parole Sheffield.

All Officers and men off Duty of the Battalion, Commanded by Capt. McDonald (Officers' Servants not excepted), to be under Arms near his Quarters at 8 o'Clock on Monday morning next, when the Brigadier will Inspect them.

The Legion and Batteaux Corps to be under Arms for same purpose, at 9 o'Clock, at the Point.

A Return to be prepared by each of these Corps, Accounting particularly for every man absent, whether on duty, such in Camp or Hospital, &c. A Survey of provisions lying near Capt. McDonald's Quarters to be held to-morrow morning. For this Duty : Capt. McDonald, Adjutant Mighan, Jamaica Volunteers ; Capt. Thomson, Legion.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 10th. Sept., 1780.
Parole Scarsdale.

Dr. Saunderson is appointed to Act as Surgeon to the General Hospital, and is to be obeyed According.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 11th. Sept., 1780.
Parole Birmingham.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 12th. Sept., 1780.
Parole Dalling.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 13th. Sept., 1780.
Parole Grath.

Mr. Tripple, Conductor, to give in a Return of all

the Artillery, &c., and Stores on both sides of the Harbour at 12 o'Clock to-morrow. Capt. Patterson will furnish him with a Boat for that Duty.

All the Negroes arrived from Jamaica in the Ship Sally, Capt. Bell, to be disembarked Immediately; the Acting Quarter Master General will appoint Huts for their Reception.

A party to be put under Capt. Patterson's direction for the Immediate Collecting the Crafts, &c.

A Court Martial to sit at Capt. Davis's Tent to-morrow at 9 o'Clock, to try all such persons as may be brought before them.

President, Capt. Davis; Capt. Thomson, Lieut. Dowlin—Members.

Mr. George Flowers is appointed Master Carpenter in the room of James Melvill, and is to be obeyed as such.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 14th. Sept., 1780.

Mr. Adams is appointed an Assistant in the Quarter Master General's Department, and Capt. Bell, of the Sally Transport, as an Assistant to the Agent of Transports, and are to be obeyed Accordingly. Thomas Dunn, Soldier in the Loyal Irish Corps, Tried by a Court Martial of the Line for being Drunk and Insolent to Ensign Carruthers of Said Corps, is found Guilty of the Crime laid to his Charge and sentenced to receive Seven hundred and fifty Lashes in the usual manner.

The Brigadier approves of the above sentence and orders it to be put in Execution this Afternoon at 5 o'Clock at the Huts near Capt. McDonald's Hut by the Drummers of the Line. The Detachments of 60th. and 79th. Regiments, Loyal Irish Corps, and Jamaica Volunteers to attend the punishment.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 15th. Sept., 1780.

Parole Durham.

The Detachment of 60th. and 79th. Regiments, Loyal

I. C., and Jamaica Volunteers to prepare to Embark, their spare Arms and Accoutrements to be packed up and ready to put on board on the Shortest notice. The Orders of the 16th. August directing a Return of Arms and Accoutrements to be given into the Acting Adjutant-General on the 24th. of the Month, not having been complied with except by the Loyal Irish Corps. Officers Commanding 60th., 79th., Jamaica Royal Volunteers, Jamaica Legion and Royal Batteaux Volunteers to send in returns of the same, Distinguishing the good from the bad, to Capt. Davis, on the 17th. Inst. at 9 o'Clock in the morning.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 16th. Sept., 1780.

Parole Bluefields.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 17th. Sept., 1780.

Parole Wilmington.

The Director of Crafts and their Deputies to send an Account from one to the other of the Quantity of provisions and Stores of the Tarpaulins and Oars, &c., each Craft is dispatched with from Port to Port. That the same may be delivered or Accounted for, if Missing any deficiency is to be Immediately reported to the Commanding Officer, that further inquiry may be made and the offender punished.

Head Quarters, St. John's Harbour, 18th. Sept., 1780.

Parole Augusta.

Dr. Cook of the Jamaica Volunteers is appointed a Surgeon's Mate in the General Hospital.

The Baggage and Detachments of 60th., 79th., Loyal Irish Corps, Jamaica Volunteers, Legion, and Royal Batteaux Corps to Embark to-morrow morning early on Board the Sally Transport.

All the men in the General Hospital, and such of the Sick on this side as are objects for the General Hospital, to be embarked to-morrow morning Early on board the Flora Hospital Ship. Mr. Saunderson will attend the Embarkation and give all Necessary orders for the Accommodation of the sick. The General flatters himself the Humanity of the Officers will leave nothing unattended that may promise to contribute to the relief of the Soldiers under their care.

The following Officers to proceed to Cook's Post as soon as possible, and to do duty there till further Orders: Capt. Flynn, Craft Department; Ensign Cameron, Royal Batteaux Volunteers; Ensign M'Knight, Legion; Dr. Cook, Hospital.

To remain in this Harbour till further Orders: Capt. Davis, Acting Quarter Master General, to Command, whose orders are to be implicitly obeyed. Capt. Patterson, Director of Crafts; Mr. Galbraith, Agent for Transports; Capt. McGuire. Mr. Tripple, Conductor of Artillery, and Mr. Flowers with all the Carpenters.

Head Quarters, on Board Sally Transport,
Bluefields, 13th. Oct., 1780.

Parole Inverness.

Officers who may have brought Tents with them from St. John's Harbour are to land and Encamp as soon as possible. Mr. Adams, Assistant in the Quarter Master General's Department, will show them their Ground. It having been represented that some Mates of the General Hospital have been negligent in their duty, the Brigadier observes that the slightest inattention to the relief of the Soldiers at this time is productive of much evil, and Shows a Disposition in those Gentlemen that reflects greatly on their Humanity; the impropriety of their Conduct he will not point out, though he thinks it proper to inform them that a Due obedience to the direction of their Superior in Department is equally incumbent on them as from any other

Class in the Military Line, and he flatters himself he shall not have Occasion to take other Steps to enforce a due regard to orders.

Mr. Jamison, Physician to the General Hospital, and Mr. Davidson, Apothecary General to the Hospital, being Arrived, they are to be observed as such. Returns of all Hospital stores to be given to Mr. Davidson by Mr. Saunderson, Acting Surgeon, as soon as possible. All Soldiers and others that may Die on board the several Transports are to be buried in a small Cove round the point below the Hulk, care to be taken that the Grave is at least four feet deep, and the Body well covered, as a negligence in this particular may be productive of the worst consequence.

The Negroes employed in constructing Huts are not to be taken off that Duty by any person whatsoever, and are only to be under the orders of the Deputy Quarter Master General, or such persons as he shall appoint to superintend them.

Bluefields, 14th. Oct., 1780.

Officers Commanding Corps to be careful that their Returns for the 15th. inst. do Correspond with their last of the 15th. Sept., the Alterations to be particularly Accounted for; the Names of all absent Officers to be mentioned at the bottom of the Return, by whose leave and for what time; the Number of Serjeants and Drummers that may have died to be mentioned in a N. B., as well as those absent on Command, &c.

Head Quarters, on board the Sally Transport,
Bluefields, 19th. Oct., 1780.

To-morrow, the 20th. Inst., will be Issued at the Commissary's Store Rations for four days to the Troops, and other persons on shore who are entitled to the Rations, to consist of: Half allowance of Pork, 1 lb. Flour, ½ Pint Pease, 2 Ozs. Butter, ½ pint Rum, per Man per day.

And on Tuesday, the 24th., will be Issued at said place for three days : ¾ lb. beef, 1 lb. flour, 1 Ozs. Vermicelli, ½ pint Rum, per Man per day.

At same time there will be Given as *Douceur*, which the Brigadier flatters himself will stimulate every person, but particularly the Black People, to exert themselves in carrying on the public Service : 3 lb. Muscovado Sugar, 2 lb. Coffee, 1 lb. Tobacco.

On no other days than Tuesdays and Fridays will provisions be Issued, unless when fresh Beef or Turtle can be procured, of which timely notice will be given.

The well people on board Ships are to draw Rations as Usual, but are to receive the *Douceur*. Those on the Hospital list to receive under the direction of Dr. Davidson, or such Surgeons as he shall appoint.

The Return for provisions from the Battalion Commanded by Capt. McDonald to be signed by him or officer next in Command. The Legion and Batteaux Corps to be Included in one Return, which is to be signed by Capt. Herbert and Landcake. The Carpenters to draw Collectively, their Return to be countersigned by Capt. Rochat, Davis, or the Assistant, Mr. Adams. The Negroes to be drawn for by themselves under the Inspection of Mr. Adams, who is to sign a Return for them. N. B. Women to receive ½, and Children ¼ of a Ration of Provisions, but no Rum.

A Survey of Provisions to be held to-morrow morning at 8 o'Clock at the Commissary's Store Houses. Capt. Rochat, Deputy Quarter Master General, Pres dent ; Capt. Herbert, Legion ; Lieut. Fahy, 60th.; Mr. Galbraith, Deputy Agent Transports ; Capt. Bell, Ship Sally—Members.

The President will report to the Brigadier the state of the provisions surveyed from day to day.

Head Quarters, on board the Sally Transport,
Bluefields, 26th. Oct., 1780.

The Troops Encamped on the Bluff to Parade

every morning at 8 o'Clock, and at Sunset in the evening, to be inspected.

Capt. McDonald, Jamaica Volunteers, will order an Officer of the day to be appointed, who will Visit the Guard at the Store House, see that the Soldiers are Alert and Attentive to their Duty. He is to be present at morning and Evening Roll Calling, to observe whether the men are Clean Dressed, their Arms, Accoutrements, and Ammunition in good order, and report to him all deficiencies. A Non-Commissioned Officer of each Corps to be present on the Parade, and is to be answerable for his men being properly dressed, &c.

The Soldiers' Dinners to be prepared and brought to their Tents, or Huts, precisely at 12 o'Clock, when the Officer of the day will Visit them, and see that their provision is Cooked; the practice of Broiling Pork or Beef is very prejudicial to the health, and is absolutely forbid.

His Excellency, Gen. Dalling's Orders.

Head Quarters, Spanish Town, 18th. Sept., 1780.

The Non-Commissioned Officers and privates of the Legion, and the Corps of Batteaux Men to be drafted into the Corps of Jamaica Volunteers, the time for which they were Inlisted being punctually adhered to and Confirmed. The Officers belonging to these Corps who have Commissions or Employments, to rejoin their Respective Corps or Employments; these that are not so Circumstanced are to continue their pay, until an opportunity offers for providing for them, or till the Expiration of the Service.

Bluefields, 29th. Oct., 1780.

Parole Durham.

In consequence of the above General Order from his Excellency the Commander in Chief, the Officers Commanding the Legion, and Corps of Batteaux Men,

are Immediately to make out Exact Lists of the Names of their Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates now living, distinguishing where they are. These men's Accounts to be made up to the 24th. Instant, and delivered to Capt. McDonald Commanding the Jamaica Volunteers, on the 4th. of November next. Such Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates as are present, to be turned over to the Jamaica Volunteers. As soon as the Officers Commanding the Legion and Batteaux Corps have made out the Lists of their Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, they will bring them to the Brigadier for his Inspection.

They will at same time give in list of the Names and Ranks of their Officers, distinguishing such as hold double Commissions, or are Employed in the Public Departments.

The late Tempestuous Weather giving room to Apprehend the loss of a Vessel Containing great part of the *Douceur* of Coffee, Sugar, &c., sent for the Relief of the Troops by his Excellency Gen. Dalling—whose unexampled Humanity and attention to the preservation and comfort of the Soldier ought ever to be Considered by them with the Highest Gratitude—and as a further Distribution may not take place so soon as is wished for the above Reason, the Brigadier recommends it to the Troops to take the Greatest Care of what they have received.

Head Quarters, Ship Sally,
Bluefields, 1st. Nov., 1780.

Morning Orders.

Capt. Davis of the Jamaica Volunteers is appointed a member of the Survey of Provisions in room of Capt. Herbert who is indisposed.

Head Quarters, Bluefields, 5th. Nov., 1780.

Surgeon's Mate Keoff of the General Hospital is

appointed to Act as Surgeon to the Garrison of St. John's Castle till further Orders.

Head Quarters, Bluefields, 7th. Nov., 1780.

The Battalion Commanded by Capt. McDonald, Including the drafts received by Jamaica Volunteers from the Legion and Batteaux Corps, to be under Arms on Thursday morning next at 9 o'Clock, to be inspected by the Brigadier.

Officers Commanding Corps to have a return prepared, accounting for their Sick, on Duty, absent by Leave, and on Command, &c. Capt. McDonald of the Jamaica Volunteers is appointed a Member of the Survey of Provisions, to be held to-morrow morning, at 8 o'Clock, in the room of Capt. Davis, absent on Duty.

After Orders, 2 o'Clock.

A Court Martial, consisting of One Captain and two Subalterns, to sit to-morrow morning at 9 o'Clock, to try Andrew Guinan, of the Loyal Irish Corps, for Theft, and such prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Capt. Thomson, late of the Legion, President; Lieut. Knox, 79th. Regiment, Lieut. Dowlin, Loyal Irish Corps, Members. The Court to Assemble at Capt. McGuire's Hut.

Head Quarters, Bluefields, 8th. Nov., 1780.

Andrew Guinan, private Soldier in the Loyal Irish Corps, tried by a Court Martial of the line, on Suspicion of Stealing some Money and other Valuable Articles from Thomas Holoway, of the Jamaica Volunteers, is found Guilty of the Crime laid to his charge, and sentenced to receive Five Hundred Lashes.

Brig.-Gen. Kemble approves of the Sentence, and orders it to be put in Execution by the Drums of the Different Corps, at 5 o'Clock this afternoon, at such place as Capt. McDonald shall direct. All the Men

off Duty to attend the punishment, under the Command of the Officer of the Day.

The Physician of the Hospital will please to order a Surgeon's Mate to attend the punishment.

Head Quarters, Bluefields, 12th. Nov., 1780.

Parole North.

It is with regret the Brigadier observes the shameful inattention and Ignorance of Duty, so very conspicuous in the Conduct of Several Officers. For their own sakes he earnestly desires, that, for the future, he may only have Occasion to take notice of their behaviour as worthy of Accomplished Officers, which will give him particular Satisfaction, and enable him to recommend to the Notice of the Commander in Chief without hazarding his own reputation.

On Tuesday, the 14th. Inst., a pint of Wine in lieu of Rum will be Issued to the Troops included in Capt. McDonald's Return, to the Gentlemen of the Staff and the Carpenters; on Friday, the 17th., 2 Ozs. Butter in lieu of 4 Ozs. Salt Beef; at the same time a further *Douceur* of 3 lb. Sugar, 2 lb. Coffee, 1 lb. Cheese, 1 lb. Tobacco will be given Generally. It is with pleasure the Brigadier finds himself enabled to order this *Douceur*, as he is convinced it will Excite the gratitude of those who participate so liberally of the Bounty of the Commander in Chief by every possible exertion for the Good of his Majesty's Service.

Bluefields, 14th. Nov., 1780.

Orders.

A Court of Inquiry to Assemble to-morrow morning at 9 o'Clock to examine into the Conduct of Capt. McGuire, Mr. Tripple, Conductor of Artillery, and Mr. Flowers, master Carpenter, relative to a loss of Stores in the Sloop St. John's when run on Shore on one of the Pearl Keys.

Capt. McDonald, Jamaica Volunteers, President; Lieut. Fahy, 60th. Regiment, Lieut. Dowlin, Loyal rish Corps, Members.

The President will report a State of the Proceedings as soon as possible to the Brigadier.

Bluefields, 18th. Nov., 1780.

Orders.

Divine Worship will be performed by the Rev. Mr. Stanford to-morrow at 10 o'Clock, near the General's Hut.

The Troops to be paraded at 8 o'Clock for inspection by the Officers of their respective Corps, who will be careful that the Men are clean dressed, and appear as decent as possible.

The Men to wear their side Arms only, and the whole to be marched from the parade to the place of Service by the Officer of the day, who will dismiss them in the same regular manner after the Service is over. No man to be absent on any Account, and it is expected all Officers will attend.

Spanish Town, 8th. Nov., 1780.

General Orders.

60th. Regiment, 1st. Battalion.—Ensign James Pruy Tucker, from the Jamaica Legion, to be Ensign vice Severn preferred.

Bluefields, 27th. Nov., 1780.

The Detachment of 60th. and 79th. Regiments, Loyal Irish Corps, and Jamaica Volunteers, to take their spare Arms from on board the Sally Transport immediately; the Officers Commanding those Corps to give in a return of their spare Arms and Accoutrements to the Brigadier on Monday next, distinguishing the good from the bad.

Bluefields, 3d. Dec., 1780.

Lieut. Madget, of the late Corps of Batteaux Men, is appointed to do duty in the Jamaica Volunteers till further orders.

Bluefields, 5th. Dec., 1780.

A Court Martial to sit to-morrow morning at 9 o'Clock for the Trial of all such Prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Capt. Davis, Jamaica Volunteers, President; Lieut. Fahy, 60th. Regiment, Ensign Pyne, Loyal Irish Corps, Members.

Bluefields, 7th. Dec., 1780.

John Smyth, Soldier in the Loyal Irish Corps, tried by the Court martial of which Capt. Davis, Jamaica Volunteers, is President, for being Drunk on the Parade, is found Guilty, and sentenced to receive Two Hundred Lashes.

Brig.-Gen. Kemble Approves of the Sentence, but is pleased to remit the punishment, and to order the prisoner to be released.

Head Quarters, Bluefields, Monday, 11th. Dec., 1780.

The Officer of the day to visit the soldiers' Huts, see that they are clean and in good order; no washing to be suffered in or near the Huts, and all Filth and Rubbish to be removed from the front and rear of them. He will examine if the men's Arms, Accoutrements, and Ammunition are put in dry places, and be very particular in his inquiry of everything that may promote cleanliness, as nothing contributes more to the Health of the Soldier, and make a report of the same in writing to the Brigadier or Officer Commanding, every day at 12 o'Clock.

Head Quarters, Bluefields, 13th. Dec., 1780.

Parole Swanzey, C. S. Cardiff.

A Return of good and bad Musket Cartridges in

possession of the Soldiers to be given to the Brigadier to-morrow morning at 10 o'Clock by the Officer of the day.

If any in store with the different Corps, returns of them to be given in at same time.

15th. Dec., 1780.

Parole Castle Cary, C. S. Guildford.

Officers commanding to make out a list of all Soldiers belonging to their respective Corps, who are Tradesmen, and have been employed on the Expedition, specifying where and how many days they worked from time to time.

These lists to be given to the Officer of the Day on Sunday morning at 9 o'clock, who will deliver them to the Brigadier.

A Return of Ball Cartridges wanting to complete the well men of each Corps to six rounds per man, and two Flints, to be given to Captain McDonald to-morrow morning early, who will make out a return of the whole and bring it to the Brigadier at 12 o'clock.

The Men's Arms, Accoutrements, Ammunition, and Necessaries to be examined every Monday morning at 9 o'clock, by an Officer of each Corps, who will report all deficiencies to the Brigadier or Officer Commanding, at 10.

All damaged Cartridges and spare Ball to be delivered to Mr. Tripple, Conductor of Artillery, to-morrow morning, and any Soldier found Guilty of making away with, losing, or destroying his Ammunition and Flints, &c., through carelessness, to be immediately Confined and reported.

Bluefields, 17th. Dec., 1780.

A Court Martial, Consisting of one Captain and two Subalterns, to sit to-morrow morning at 9 o'Clock for the Trial of such Prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Capt. McDonald, of the Jamaica Volunteers, President; Lieut. Madget, late Batteaux Corps, Ensign Tucker, 60th. Regiment, Members.

Bluefields, 19th. Dec., 1780.

Terence Gorman, Private Soldier in the Loyal Irish Corps, tried by a Court Martial, which Capt. McDonald is President, for Theft, is acquitted of the same.

Corporal Backus, of the Loyal Irish Corps, tried by the above Court Martial, for striking his Wife and making a disturbance in Camp, is found Guilty of the Crime laid to his Charge, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes.

The Brigadier approves the above Sentences, but at the Recommendation of the Court is pleased to remit the punishment adjudged Corporal Backus, and to order the Prisoner to be released.

Bluefields, 20th. Dec., 1780.

Capt. Park, Engineer, having been intrusted by his Excellency Gen. Dalling with Superintending the Works to be carried on at this place, as well as building Huts for the reception of the Troops, All the Carpenters and other labouring Men, as also the Negroes, are to be under his sole direction, and to receive their orders only from him in future. Mr. Adams, Assistant to the Quarter Master General, is to Act under Capt. Park's direction till further orders.

Bluefields, 22d. Dec., 1780.

No Prisoner to be kept in the Guard above two hours without his Crime is given in writing and signed by an Officer or Non-Commissioned Officer, except such as are confined by the General.

All Persons, not in the Military line, who have reason to Complain of Soldiers, or other Persons belonging to the Army, are to apply to the Officer of the Day, who is to inquire into the matter immediately.

A Court Martial, consisting of one Captain and two

Subalterns, to sit to-morrow morning at 9 o'Clock, for the trial of such Prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Capt. Dixon, 60th. Regiment, President; Lieut. Carruthers, Ensign Craskill, Loyal Irish, Members.

After Orders.

Lieut. Knox, of 79th. Regiment, is appointed a member of the Court Martial, ordered to sit to-morrow in the room of Lieut. Carruthers.

Bluefields, 23d. Dec., 1780.

To-morrow morning a further *Douceur* will be Issued to the Troops and others, of which they will be careful, as it is the last they are to receive unless additional Supplies are sent, which cannot in reason be expected, The Commander in Chief's bounty and attention having been extended to them in the most liberal manner.

The Brigadier, therefore, hopes a proper sense of the General's unexampled goodness will be looked upon by every soldier in the distinguished light it merits, and induce him, by a steady perseverance to his duty and uniform good behaviour, to show he is deserving of the favours conferred.

Corporal Gordon, of the 60th. Regiment, tried by the Court Martial of which Capt. Dixon is President, for being Drunk on Guard, is found Guilty, and sentenced to be reduced to the Ranks as Private, and to Mount six extraordinary Guards.

The Brigadier Approves of the above Sentence, and orders the Prisoner to be released from Confinement.

Bluefields, 24th. Dec., 1780.

When the Soldiers parade to-morrow to have their Arms, Accoutrements, &c., examined, it is expected they appear clean dressed, and celebrate the day with decency.

The Negroes will be allowed to-morrow and the day after as days of rest, in consequence of the approaching Christmas Festival.

One day's Allowance of Turtle will be issued to the troops to-morrow, which they will receive precisely at 7 in the morning.

Bluefields, 26th. Dec., 1780.

Officers Commanding to have lists made out of the necessaries wanting to complete the Men of their respective Corps to two good suits per Man, and give the same to Capt. McDonald to-morrow morning, who will make a Return of the whole for the Brigadier's information.

Bluefields, 28th. Dec., 1780.

All the Men off duty to Parade this Afternoon at 4 o'Clock, and to carry away the Rubbish from the Rear of their Huts to the edge of the Wood below, where all filth is to be thrown in future. The Officer of the day to attend and see that it is properly done.

Capt. Rochat, Deputy Quarter Master General, will look into the State of the Huts from time to time, and give his directions that cleanliness is preserved in all places and at all times.

After Orders.

Capt. Davis of the Jamaica Volunteers, and Ensign Tucker of 60th. Regiment, are appointed Members of the Survey of Provisions, in the room of Lieut. Fahy, 60th. Regiment, and Capt. Bell of the Ship Sally.

Head Quarters, 31st. Dec., 1780.

Morning Orders.

The Detachment of 60th. and 79th. Regiments, Loyal Irish Corps, and Jamaica Volunteers, to apply at half-past nine this Morning to Capt. Rochat, Deputy Quarter Master General, for a proportion of Camp Kettles, &c.

Head Quarters, Bluefields, 31st. Dec., 1780.

A Captain and two Subalterns of the day to come on duty at the usual time of relief till further orders.

The Captain will go his Rounds at such times as he shall think proper, and Fix the hours for the Subalterns to go their Rounds. He will Visit or direct his Subalterns to Visit the Men's Huts, &c., as ordered on the 7th. inst., and report all extraordinaries to the Brigadier.

Captain for this day, Capt. Dixon, 60th. Regiment; Subalterns, Lieut. Knox, 79th. Regiment, Lieut. Dowlin, Loyal Irish Corps.

Bluefields, 1st. Jan., 1781.

Parole Great Britain, C. S. Ireland.

Captain for this day, Capt. McDonald, Jamaica Volunteers; Subalterns, Lieut. Craskill, Ensign Pine, Loyal Irish Corps.

After Orders.

Capt. Park, Mr. Shaw, Deputy Agent, and Mr. Johnston, Assistant Commissary, are appointed to Examine the Woolens and Oznabrigs lately landed from the Ship Hope, at nine o'Clock to-morrow morning, and Report their Opinion of the same to the Brigadier.

Bluefields, 2d. Jan., 1781.

Parole Thornbury, C. S. Stroud.

Captain for this day, Capt. Davis, Jamaica Volunteers. Subalterns, Lieut. Madget, Ensign Tucker.

Bluefields, 3d. Jan., 1781.

Parole Blenheim, C. S. Woodstock.

Captain for this day, Capt. Dixon; Subalterns, Lieut. Knox, 79th., Lieut. Dowlin, Loyal Irish.

The Troops to receive full allowance of Salt Provisions till further Orders; the Men in the General Hospital excepted, who are only to receive according to the Returns given in by the Surgeons.

Bluefields, 4th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Limerick, C. S. Belfast.

Captain for this day, Capt. McDonald; Subalterns, Lieut. Craskill, Ensign Pine, Loyal Irish.

Bluefields, 5th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Black River, C. S. Rattan.

Captain for this day, Capt. Davis; Subalterns, Lieut. Madget, Ensign Tucker.

The Troops to Parade in future at morning Roll calling with their Arms and Accoutrements, when an Officer of the day will examine them and see that they are in good order.

Bluefields, 6th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Sussex, C. S. Firle.

Captain for this day, Capt. Dixon; Subalterns, Lieut. Knox, 79th., Lieut. Dowlin, Loyal Irish Corps.

After Orders.

The late shameful and uncommon instances of Drunkenness observed in some old Soldiers when upon duty shows such a depravity of Mind as to exclude all hopes of Amendment but what the fear of punishment may bring to their recollection. The Brigadier did hope the attention that has been paid to the Soldiers' wants, and the extraordinary *Douceurs* they have received, would have made some impression on them and induce them to pay a stricter regard to Military Discipline; but as examples of lenity and attention appear to have only contrary effects, he will try what the rigour of Military Law dictates, and is determined to Punish with the utmost severity in future; and, that none may plead Ignorance, these orders and the Articles of War to be read by the Captain of the day to the Soldiers on the Parade this Evening. All the Men off duty of the 60th., 79th., Loyal Irish Corps, and Jamaica Volunteers (Officers' Servants

included) to be under Arms to-morrow morning at Roll calling, when the Captains and Subalterns of the day will examine their Arms, Ammunition, and Accoutrements and Report the State of them to the Brigadier. The Captains and Subalterns of the day to be present at morning and Evening Roll Calling or at any other time when the Troops are ordered to parade. It is expected all Officers of every Corps attend the Parade to-morrow morning, and those Commanding Detachments are answerable that their Men's Arms, Accoutrements and Ammunition are in good order.

Bluefields, 7th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Antigua, C. S. Nevis.

Captain for this day, Capt. McDonald; Subalterns, Lieut. Craskill, Ensign Pine, Loyal Irish Corps.

Bluefields, 8th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Strasburg, C. S. Wyburg.

Captain for this day, Capt. Dixon; Subalterns, Lieut. Madget, Ensign Tucker.

A Non-Commissioned Officer and two Men from each Corps to be sent to the Commissary's Store immediately to receive a Keg to put their Rum or Wine in, which the Officer Commanding will take into his Charge when Issued and order each day's allowance (mixed with four times the quantity of Water) to be delivered to the Men at 11 o'Clock in the morning.

The Commissary will at same time deliver a cask for the use of two Corps, which they are to have sawed asunder, and will serve to mix the Men's Grog in. Capt. Park will order the like directions to be observed with the Negroes.

Capt. Patterson is appointed a Member of the Survey of Provisions, in the room of Capt. Davis who is indisposed.

Bluefields, 9th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Alton, C. S. Bath.

Captain for this day, Capt. McDonald; Subalterns, Lieut. Knox, Lieut. Dowlin.

Bluefields, Wednesday, 10th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Windsor, C. S. Eaton.

Captain for this day, Capt. Rochat; Subalterns, Lieut. Craskill, Ensign Pine, Loyal Irish Corps.

The Commissary having represented to the Brigadier that he apprehends a part of the Salt Provisions and Flour in Store does not average the Weight Charged in the Account sent him from Jamaica, the following Officers are appointed to see such a proportion of said Salt Provisions and Flour weighed as will enable them to make a just Average of the whole under this description, and Report their opinion of the same in writing: Capt. Rochat, Deputy Quarter Master General, President; Capt. McDonald, Jamaica Volunteers, Ensign Tucker, 60th. Regiment, Capt. Patterson, Director of Crafts, Peter Galbraith, Esq., D. A. Transports, Members.

Bluefields, 11th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Leslie, C. S. Patterson.

Captain for this day, Capt. McDonald; Subalterns, Lieut. Madget, Ensign Tucker.

Bluefields, 12th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Robertson, C. S. New York.

Captain for this day, Capt. Dixon; Subalterns, Lieut. Knox, Lieut. Dowlin.

Capt. Dixon is appointed President, and Capt. Rochat a member of the Survey of Provisions ordered on the 10th. Inst.

Bluefields, 13th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Hanover, C. S. Bremen.

Captain for this day, Capt. McDonald; Subalterns, Lieut. Craskill, Lieut. Madget.

Capt. Park is appointed a Member of the Survey of Provisions ordered on the 10th. Inst., in the room of Capt. Rochat who is indisposed.

Bluefields, 14th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Blandford, C. S. Spalding.

Captain for this day, Capt. Dixon; Subalterns, Lieut Knox, Ensign Tucker.

Bluefields, 15th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Hampshire, C. S. Gosport.

Captain for this day, Capt. McDonald; Subalterns Lieut. Dowlin, Lieut. Craskill, Loyal Irish Corps.

A Court Martial, consisting of one Captain and two Subalterns, to sit immediately for the trial of Such Prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Capt. McDonald, Jamaica Volunteers, President; Lieut. Dowlin, Ensign Pine, Members.

After Orders.

Jack, a Negro Private Soldier in the Jamaica Volunteers, tried by Court Martial for sleeping on his Post, is found Guilty of the Crime laid to his Charge, and Sentenced to receive four hundred lashes in the usual manner. The Brigadier approves of the Sentence and orders it to be put in Execution this Evening.

Bluefields, 16th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Liverpool, C. S. Landaff.

Captain for this day, Capt. Davis; Subalterns, Lieut. Madget, Ensign Tucker.

Bluefields, 17th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Sandwich, C. S. Rodney.

Captain for this day, Capt. Dixon ; Subalterns, Lieut. Knox, Lieut. Dowlin.

Bluefields, 18th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Brunswick, C. S. Ferdinand.

Capt. for this day, Capt. McDonald ; Subalterns, Lieut. Craskill, Ensign Pine, Loyal Irish Corps.

Bluefields, 19th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Carmarthen, C. S. Hindon.

Captain for this day, Capt. Davis ; Subalterns, Lieut. Madget, Lieut. Knox.

Bluefields, 20th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Highmeadow, C. S. Newland.

Captain for this day, Capt. Dixon ; Subalterns, Lieuts. Dowlin and Craskill.

Bluefields, 21st. Jan., 1781.

Parole Salisbury, C. S. Wilton.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Madget, Ensign Pine.

Bluefields, 22d. Jan., 1781.

Parole London, C. S. Dublin.

Subaltern for this day, Lieut. Knox.

Bluefields, 23d. Jan., 1781.

Parole Holland, C. S. Hague.

Subaltern for this day, Lieut. Dowlin.

Bluefields, 24th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Stormont, C. S. Litchfield.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Carruthers, Lieut Madget.

An Officer from each Corps to be at the Artillery Store to-morrow morning at 9 o'Clock to take charge of the spare Arms and Accoutrements arrived from the Harbour of St. John's, a Return and State of the same to be given the Brigadier the day after. Ensign Cameron, of the late Batteaux Corps, to do duty with the Detachment of 60th. Regiment till further Orders.

Bluefields, 25th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Canterbury, C. S. Durham.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. McKenzie, Ensign Cameron.

Bluefields, 26th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Chichester, C. S. Arundel.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Knox, Lieut. Dowlin.

There being no Quarter Master to the Battalion composed of Detachments from 60th. and 79th. Regiments, Loyal Irish Corps, and Jamaica Volunteers, The Subalterns of the day will superintend the division of Provisions, and see that a fair and equal proportion is given to each Corps according to their numbers.

The Troops to receive four ounces of Butter, in lieu of half a pound of Beef or Pork in proportion, till further Orders.

Bluefields, 27th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Northumberland, C. S. Alnwick.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Carruthers, Lieut. Madget.

The Detachment of 60th. and 79th. Regiments, Loyal Irish Corps, Jamaica Volunteers and Lighthorse (Officers' Servants not excepted), to be under Arms on Monday morning at 7 o'Clock to be inspected by the Brigadier; Officers Commanding to have returns prepared Accounting for every man of their respective Corps, whether Absent by leave, Sick, or on duty. A List of such Men lately arrived from the Castle, who have been

employed as Artificers during the Expedition, to be given in at the same time, Specifying where and how many days they Worked from time to time.

Bluefields, 28th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Kensington, C. S. Windsor.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Knox, Ensign Tucker.

Bluefields, 29th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Quebec, C. S. Montreal.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Dowlin, Lieut. Madget.

The Detachments of 60th. Regiment and Loyal Irish Corps to be ready to Embark at the shortest Notice; the Sick of these two Corps fit to Embark to assemble on the Parade to-morrow morning at Guard Mounting.

Bluefields, 30th. Jan., 1781.

Parole Edinburgh, C. S. Glasgow.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. McKenzie and Ensign Cameron.

A *Douceur* will be delivered this afternoon at 4 o'Clock to the Troops lately arrived from St. John's Harbour. Lieut. Brown, 60th. Regiment, will send a Return as soon as possible to the Commissary of the number of Officers and Men of each Corps entitled to receive the same.

Bluefields, 31st. Jan., 1781.

Parole Archer, C. S. Resource.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Knox, Ensign Tucker.

A Court Martial to sit immediately for the Trial of such Prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Capt. Davis, Jamaica Volunteers, President; Lieut. McKenzie, Light Horse, Lieut. Madget, late Batteaux Corps, Members.

Bluefields, Feb. 1st., 1781.

Parole Newcastle, C. S. Tyne.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Dowlin, Lieut. Madget.

Bluefields, Feb. 2d., 1781.

Parole York, C. S. Harlem.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. McKenzie, Ensign Cameron.

Lieut. Knox is appointed a Member of the Court Martial ordered to sit Yesterday, to assemble this morning at 10 o'Clock.

Bluefields, 3d. Feb., 1781.

Parole Severn, C. S. Trent.

Subalterns for this day, Lieut. Knox, Ensign Tucker.

Francis, Private in the light Horse, tried by the Court Martial of which Capt. Davis was President, for neglect of duty, is found Guilty, and sentenced to mount one Extra Guard.

Corporal Gothy, of the 60th. Regiment, tried by said Court Martial for neglect of duty, is found Guilty of the same, and sentenced to be suspended for a fortnight.

Corporal Gaynon, of the Loyal Irish Corps, tried by said Court Martial for permitting the Commissary's Store to be broke open during his Guard, is found Guilty, and Sentenced to receive four hundred lashes.

The Brigadier approves of the above several Sentences, and orders the Prisoners Francis and Corporal Gothy to be released from Confinement; he is also pleased to remit Corporal Gothy's suspension. The Prisoner Gaynon to receive only two of the four hundred lashes adjudged him this Evening at Retreat beating.

Bluefields, 4th. Feb., 1781.

Parole Southampton, C. S. Alresford.

Subaltern for this day, Lieut. Madget.

The Detachment of 60th. Regiment and Loyal Irish

Corps under the Command of Lieut. Brown, 60th. Regiment, to Embark to-morrow at 12 o'Clock.

Dr. Sanderson, of the General Hospital, and Mr. Hodgkinson, assistant in the Commissary Department, to Embark with Lieut. Brown's Detachment.

Bluefields, 5th. Feb., 1781.

Parole Dalling, C. S. Garth.

Subaltern for this day, Lieut. McKenzie.

To prevent any disputes that may arise on the Construction of Gen. Dalling's orders of 18th. Sept. last, whether Capt. Park, of the late Batteaux Corps, shall hold his Rank as Captain-Brigadier, Gen. Kemble is pleased to order that Capt. Park be considered as Captain in the Provincial Line, and to hold his Rank accordingly, till his Excellency Gen. Dalling's pleasure is known.

Morning Orders.

A Court Martial, composed of Officers belonging to the Detachment under Lieut. Brown's Command, to sit immediately for the trial of such Prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Lieut. Dowlin, Loyal Irish Corps, President; Lieut. Carruthers, Ensign Tucker, Members.

After Orders.

John Gordon, private Soldier in the 60th. Regiment, tried by the Court Martial of which Lieut. Dowlin was President, for disobedience of Orders and being insolent to Serjeant Dotterlin, Is found Guilty of being insolent to Serjeant Dotterlin, and sentenced to receive two hundred lashes. The Brigadier Approves of the above Sentence, and orders it to be put in immediate Execution.

Bluefields, 6th. Feb., 1781.

Parole Monmouth, C. S. Ross.

Subaltern for this day, Ensign Cameron.

All Officers and others who have permission to go to Jamaica are to Embark to-morrow morning; they will give in their Names to Capt. Rochat, Deputy Quarter Master General, immediately, who will regulate their Embarkation with Mr. Galbraith, Agent of Transports.

Ensign Cameron, of the late Batteaux Corps, to do duty with the Jamaica Volunteers till further orders.

The Detachment of 79th. Regiment, Jamaica Volunteers, and Light Horse to remain at this post till further orders, under the Command of Capt. Davis, of Jamaica Volunteers. As also the following Staff Officers, viz.: Capt. Patterson, director of Crafts; Capt. Park, Superintendent of Works; Mr. Adams, assistant to Superintendent of Works; Mr. Johnson, Commissary of Provisions; Mr. Munro, Conductor of Artillery.

Bluefields, 7th. Feb., 1781.

Parole Inverness, C. S. Sterling.

Subaltern for this day, Lieut. Madget.

A Survey of Provisions to be held immediately.

Capt. Rochat, President; Capt. Park, Mr. Galbraith, Members.

III.

DOCUMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

EXPEDITION

TO THE

SPANISH MAIN AND NICARAGUA.

1779–1781.

DOCUMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

(*From the London Gazette.*)

Whitehall, Dec. 18th., 1779.

Extracts from a Letter from Capt. Dalrymple, Commandant of the Loyal Irish Volunteers, to the Right Honourable Lord George Germain, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State. Received Yesterday by Lieut. Carden, of the 60th. Regiment.

St. Fernando de Omoa, Oct. 21st., 1779.

Your lordship would be informed that Gen. Dalling had dispatched me to the Mosquito shore to collect a force, and that he had also sent arms, artillery, and ammunition for St. George's Key, being the principal settlement of the Baymen.

On the 27th. of September, the day of our arrival at Black River, on the Mosquito shore, an Advice-boat came up from the bay with certain intelligence that the Spaniards had, on the 15th. of September, taken possession of St. George's Key, having a number of armed Petiaguas and about 600 men. On this notice, having collected 60 Indians, and inlisted some volunteers on the shore, we sailed in the Porcupine sloop of war with three transports, for the relief and re-establishment of the Baymen. On the evening of our departure from Black River we fell in with Commodore Luttrell in the Charon, accompanied by the Lowestoffe and Pomona frigates, when we were informed that St. George's Key had been retaken by his Majesty's armed schooner Racehorse, and that the remaining

inhabitants, with their slaves, had retired to Truxillo and Rattan. I intended to have consulted the Baymen on re-settling Honduras, when I was informed that his Majesty's ships had been at the Gulph of Dulce, and not finding the Register ships there, had proceeded to St. Fernando de Omoa, where they discovered them; that they had entered the bay, where some shots were exchanged between them and the fort, but not having a sufficient land force to attack on shore, they were obliged to leave it. Judging this a happy opportunity of adding lustre to his Majesty's arms, I waited upon Commodore Luttrell and offered to attack on the land side with the Indians and the detachment of the Loyal Irish, if he would reinforce me with the marines, musketry-men from the ships. The Commodore agreeing in opinion that the fort might be taken by attacking by sea and land at the same time, it was accordingly determined on, and Truxillo was appointed as the rendezvous to collect the Baymen with their slaves, where we met some people from the Mosquito shore, who had been on an expedition against the Register ships. The Commodore immediately had the Baymen collected, as I suggested it, who were dispersed about the islands of Rattan and Bonaccoa; they were formed by me into four companies, being invested with powers by Gen. Dalling for that purpose; the slaves I officered by their proprietors. With this reinforcement of 250 men, added to the Loyal Irish, marines, musketry-men from the ships, and Indians, our force amounted to upwards of 500 men. The Commodore, having got in readiness at my request scaling ladders, issued out 200 stand of arms, exclusive of 70 stand issued by me of the regimental arms, and 150 sent down by Gen. Dalling, which were intended for the bay. We sailed from the Bay of Truxillo on the 10th. inst., and landed on the 16th., about eight o'Clock at night, at Porto Cavallo. We were informed by our guides that Porto Omoa was only three leagues distant, and our intention was to have marched directly

on in the night to surprise and escalade the fort; but the distance proving greater than was imagined, and the roads very bad which they passed—such as I may venture to affirm no European troops ever marched before in this climate, being obliged at times to walk (on account of impenetrable mangroves) out into the sea, which damaged their cartouches, and at other times through lagoons, morasses, and narrow foot-paths over mountains, rendered almost impassable from the late rains, having precipices on each side, and forced to grope our way by lights made from cabbage trees—we were not arrived within two leagues of the fort at day-break, having lost our rear, some lying down through fatigue, and others losing the line of march from the darkness of the night, and the difficulty of keeping up in paths only passable by Indians. In the morning the rear line was brought up by Capt. Carden, of the 60th. regiment of foot, and, having refreshed the troops for two hours, we proceeded again through passes and defiles the same as the night before, the Indians skirmishing along the paths. We had taken two lookouts, from which some of the soldiers escaped and carried intelligence that an enemy was advancing, and, as they had seen our squadron the night before, and the Mosquito crafts, imagined that Indians (only) landed from them were the enemy on shore, not thinking that Europeans would undertake such a march; and in order to favour this deception, the Indians were advanced in front and dislodged them from their lookouts, which prevented them from occupying the defiles and passes until we arrived near the town, where they had placed an ambuscade. The Indians, who are extremely sharp as scouts, perceived them; they represented that the Spaniards were drawn up in force. A disposition to attack was immediately framed for the Loyal Irish and marines to force the pass in front in columns, and to advance rapidly with the grenadiers' march, supported by the second line drawn up; and the Pomona's musketry-men of the

first line were detached to gain a hill on the left, covered with wood, which commanded the pass. These orders being instantly executed, the defile was forced. We received a scattering, ill-directed fire from 50 or 60 Spaniards, which killed one soldier only of the Loyal Irish, and wounded a marine; and so great was their panic, that they fled on all quarters to the fort, woods, and town, evacuating the Governor's house, built with battlements, and terraced on the top—a post which, if defended by 20 British regulars, would have stopped our whole force. The gaining this hill, and that which the Pomona's men had ascended, gave us the entire view of the fort commanding it, and the town in the bottom, the fort distant half a mile, and the town in close under the hill. The skirmishing continued from the town, and galled us a little. Being unwilling to set fire to it, I desisted upwards of an hour; but finding that I could not permit an enemy on my flank, the town forming a crescent under the hill, orders were given for its being consumed, which were carried into execution, the inhabitants flying to the fort and the woods. The property consumed in the town was estimated at 100,000 piasters. The squadron came into the bay while the town was in flames, and, supposing it a proper time to batter the fort, went in abreast of it. A diversion was made by the land forces in their favour from the hill. The scaling ladders were carried by the Honduras fusileers; but their eagerness to engage in skirmishing made them drop the ladders, and hasten to get up to the head of the column, which prevented the land forces from co-operating with the squadron (by storming) so heartily that day as could have been wished.

The Lowestoffe having got aground, and the other ships, as I imagined, observing the signal was displayed that the land forces could not co-operate, desisted firing. The Lowestoffe was much damaged, but got off.

The day following we passed in skirmishing, in

securing the roads round the fort, and driving in cattle for the land forces. On the 18th. the squadron landed some guns to the westward; two four-pounders were got up that night, and a battery was immediately opened on them.

This battery incommoded them much, but never could have made any impression on the walls of the parapet, as they were eighteen feet thick.

The Spaniards pointed that evening three more guns towards the land side, and in the morning dismounted one of ours. Observing there were some houses near the fort which the Spaniards had neglected to burn, parties of marines, baymen, and Indians occupied them, and kept up so incessant a fire on the embrasures of the fort, that the Spaniards' fire from the guns was often silenced for hours, and we observed them throwing over the dead. This day six more guns were got up by the seamen and baymen, one of which Gen. Dalling had sent for the baymen, three others being unfortunately swamped coming on shore. Capt. Carden opened a battery of four six-pounders from the hill which the Pomona's men had gained in the first skirmish at the defile, which also commanded the fort.

Foreseeing that by a siege of this nature, before approaches could be made in a regular way, and a breach effected, a vast train of artillery would be required, and a length of time, after which we should be obliged to storm, having also the enemy in the rear all round; and having maturely weighed all these circumstances, and the disadvantage inevitable attending a siege, it was therefore determined to escalade the fort, as the ditch was found to be dry. And having consulted with the Commodore on the mode of attack, it was resolved that the Pomona should be towed close in, the heavier ships co-operating. The attack being determined on, the Europeans were formed into four columns in line, four men advanced with guides at the head of each column, in each column followed eight

men carrying the ladders, who were followed by a few hand-grenade men. Two columns consisted of Seamen and two of marines, with a few Loyal Irish. At three in the morning, this disposition being made, and our force consisting of 150, we moved down the hill, and there lay waiting for the signal of the Charon which was to denote she had got under way and would attack in 20 minutes. The signal being made a little after four o'Clock in the morning of the 20th., we advanced under the fire of our own batteries, and were encouraged by observing that the Spaniards did not perceive our march, by the direction of their shot over us, pointed at our batteries on the hill.

The Pomona and fleet also attracted their notice by the fire from the sea-side; by this fortunate co-operation, in profound silence, arms trailed, and in order to animate the troops, the parole was changed to bayonet, and the countersign *Britons, strike home.* We advanced undiscovered under the Spanish sentries, who were every two or three minutes passing the word *alerto.* At the entrance into the ditch were two guns pointed from the flank of the bastion to scour it. We were perceived by their sentries, and their drum beat to the alarm posts. Our columns were staggered, and stepped back; but instantly recovering themselves, they advanced to the wall, in height 28 feet, on which was a battery of five guns. They reared one ladder, a second, and a third; the first ladder was broke by the flank guns of another bastion, killing a Midshipman, and badly wounding five men; the other ladders were also wounded, but not broke. Two seamen got up first by one ladder, and obeyed their orders in not firing; they presented at 60 Spaniards drawn up, but retained their fire until others ascended; and so great was the consternation of the enemy, that it seemed as if they had lost the power of their arms, although their officers were at their head encouraging them.

The seamen scrambling up the ladders, down off the parapets they went, and, being reinforced by ma-

rines and seamen, the Spaniards fled to the casements; but they could not recover their panic, notwithstanding every exertion of their Officers. About 100 Spaniards escaped over the walls on the opposite side, and out of a sally port. The Governor and principal Officers then came and delivered up to me their swords, the garrison, and register ships, with the keys of the fort, and asked their lives. Inclosed is a list of the Spanish Officers, with the troops of the garrison; also a list of our killed and wounded, which is very inconsiderable. We found eleven Spaniards wounded, some of whom are since dead; they will not acknowledge the number they have lost, but it is thought it exceeds thirty.

As to the behaviour of the Officers and soldiers under my command, the British displayed that valour which is their known characteristic. The baymen and Indians were also of the utmost service in all duties of fatigue, in skirmishing, and dragging up the cannon.

Your Lordship will pardon my mentioning an instance of an elevated mind in the British tar which amazed the Spaniards and gave them a very high idea of English valour. Not contented with one cutlass, he had scrambled up the walls with two, and meeting a Spanish Officer without arms, who had been roused out of his sleep, had the generosity not to take any advantage, but, presenting him one of his cutlasses, told him, "You are now on a footing with me." The orders were, Not to spare while they resisted, but to grant quarter to all who requested it. Only two Spaniards were wounded by the bayonet in resisting, nor was any person pillaged or plundered.

I have the pleasure to inform your Lordship that the greatest harmony has subsisted between the sea and land forces during the whole of this expedition, and that Commodore Luttrell and the Captains of the navy have, on every occasion, made the greatest exertions to forward the service on shore, and all under-

went the most severe fatigue, in this hot climate, with uncommon alacrity.

Of this fortification your Lordship will judge of the importance from the incredible expense the Crown of Spain has been at in erecting it, as the stone of which it is built is raised out of the sea and brought twenty leagues.

The outworks are not finished, notwithstanding they have constantly employed one thousand men at work for twenty years. It is the key to the Bay of Honduras, and where the register ships and treasure are sent to from Guatemala in time of war. The morning of our arrival the treasure was conveyed into the country, so that what we have found in the military chest and what belonged to the public does not exceed 8,000 piasters, but the register ships must be very valuable if they arrive in safety in England.

I send these dispatches with the colours of Omoa, and also plans of the fortification, by Lieut. Carden, of the 60th. Regiment, whom I appointed to act as Captain of Artillery and Engineer to this expedition, and humbly beg he may be permitted to lay them at his Majesty's feet. His merit and activity in forwarding the works during the expedition contributed to the reduction of this important fortress, and I solicit your Lordship will recommend him to his Majesty's protection. Your Lordship will find him intelligent relative to the Mosquito shore and the state of this country. I also take the liberty of mentioning Lieut. Wightman, of the Marines, who acted as my Aid-de-Camp, to be recommended to Lord Sandwich. This gentleman was wounded in reconnoitring the ditch the evening before it was stormed. The prisoners taken amount in the whole to 365, exclusive of Officers, as by the inclosed list.

Your Lordship will observe that an agreement has been made to exchange them for the baymen who were inhumanly carried away, with their families, to Merida, and we have brought off two Priests and the Lieuten-

ant-Governor as hostages for the performance of this agreement. I have also obliged them to exchange two Mosquito Indians, one of whom has been forced to dive at Carthagena for many years with irons on his limbs, and is confined in a dungeon every evening; and we have also released some unfortunate Englishmen who were confined here and made to work as slaves.

I have to mention to your Lordship that Mr. Concannen, a young gentleman, a Midshipman, was the third who mounted the ladder, and Lieut. Dundass, who was the fourth, agreeable to my orders, formed some men before he advanced on the Spaniards. I have also to take notice that Lieuts. Walker and Dundass, who commanded the seamen, preserved that discipline and promptitude in obeying orders which would do honour to veteran troops, and recommend that their services may be mentioned to Lord Sandwich, that his Majesty may know such Officers as have gallantly distinguished themselves.

Copy of the Convention between the Honourable John Luttrell and William Dalrymple, Esq., on the part of his Britannic Majesty, and Don Simon Desnaux and Don Juan Dastiex on the part of his Catholic Majesty, for the Officers and garrison of Porto Omoa, October 24, 1779.

Don Simon Desnaux, Lieutenant-Colonel of Infantry, Engineer in second to his Catholic Majesty, and heretofore Commandant of the Fort of Omoa, and Don Juan Dastiex, Engineer, Commandant, and Captain of Infantry, having earnestly solicited the Commanders of his Britannic Majesty's forces by land and sea, the Honourable John Luttrell and William Dalrymple, Esq., to treat for the exchange of the Spanish garrison at Omoa, on the part of his Britannic Majesty, have set forth that they are ready to treat, on the part of his Catholic Majesty, for the same. The said request is complied with upon the following terms and conditions:

First. All the Spanish Officers which bear his Catholic Majesty's Commission shall be prisoners of war and admitted upon their parole, that they shall not serve, directly or indirectly, against the King of Great Britain, his subjects or allies, during the present war, unless they are before exchanged.

Secondly. That all the said Officers shall be permitted to choose their place of residence, provided that they are not found beyond the distance of sixty leagues from Omoa, nor nearer to Omoa than forty leagues, until they be exchanged in the manner hereafter set forth.

Thirdly. That all the Mulattoes and people of mixed colour, whether men, women, or children, as well as the artificers, shall have liberty to return home, provided none of them take up arms against the King of Great Britain, his subjects or allies, or be found within thirty leagues of Omoa until this agreement is fully accomplished.

Fourthly. That the said Don Simon Desnaux and Juan Dastiex doth engage for the Governor of Merida, in case the English prisoners captured in the Bay of Hunduras are within his district, and if not, for the Governor of whatever Spanish district they may be in, that he shall return an equal number of Mulattoes or people of mixed colour to those that have been liberated at Omoa, and of this number such as were taken in the Bay of Honduras by the Spaniards shall have the preference. And it is further understood and agreed between the parties to this agreement, that all the subjects of the King of Great Britain, taken in the Bay of Honduras, and now in the custody of the said Governor of Merida, shall be exchanged by giving Mulattoes for Mulattoes, men for men, women for women, and children for children; and this exchange to be made the moment the said Governor of Merida can be made acquainted with this convention, but at all events not to exceed the space of three months.

Fifthly. The serjeants and soldiers of the regulars

shall be exchanged for an equal number of serjeants and soldiers of the British army; and, if the King of Spain shall not have such in his possession, then to be exchanged for the principal merchants and traders taken at George's Key in the Bay of Honduras: provided, a sufficient number of white people cannot be sent from Omoa to exchange them, and a receipt to be given by the English Commissary for such number of men as may have been captured by the Spaniards in the Bay of Honduras as shall exceed the number delivered from the garrison of Omoa; such a receipt for the surplus to be given by the Spanish Commissary, if the balance is in favour of England. The Spanish seamen to be exchanged in like manner for English seamen, as is specified by the parties respecting the serjeants and soldiers.

Sixthly. The Honourable John Luttrell and William Dalrymple do covenant, that the Spanish garrison at Omoa shall be embarked within the space of three days on board of vessels properly provided, and shall be conveyed without loss of time to the castle of St. Philip, within the Gulph of Dulce, or to some adjacent Spanish post, and there delivered, at the sole charge of his Britannic Majesty. And the said Don Simon Desnaux and Don Juan Dastiex do covenant, that the Officers, soldiers, merchants, artificers, Mulattoes, and people of white or mixed colour, subjects of his Britannic Majesty, who, since the commencement of the present war with Spain, have been taken in the Bay of Honduras, shall be embarked within the space of three months from the day the said Don Simon Desnaux and Don Juan Dastiex shall be landed in the Gulph of Dulce, and sent to Omoa or the next nearest English settlement, at the sole expense of the King of Spain: provided, the said English prisoners, or any of them, are within the jurisdiction of the Governor of Merida; but should they have been sent to the Havannah, then the said Don Simon Desnaux and Don Juan Dastiex doth covenant, that the Governor of the

Havannah shall embark them from thence, and land them at the expense of the King of Spain aforesaid at Jamaica, within the space of six months from the date hereof. Provided always, that every article of this agreement is not strictly performed on the part of the Court of Spain, We, Don Simon Desnaux and Don Juan Dastiex, were fully bound for ourselves, and for all the Spanish Officers of the garrison, to repair without loss of time, and by the shortest mode of conveyance, to Omoa, or to the nearest English settlement, there to deliver themselves up as prisoners of war. And for the further security hereof, the said Don Simon Desnaux and Don Juan Dastiex will deliver up as hostages Col. Antonio Fernandez, second commandant of the garrison, the Rev. Blass Mercenario, Chaplain of the register ship Saint Joseph, the Padre Antonio Mercurdetio, late Chaplain of Omoa, to whom we promise to give the ornaments of the church (which we refuse to ransom) upon condition that every part of this agreement is fulfilled by the court of Spain, within the time and in the manner before specified, but to remain till then in the hands of the English.

Signed on the part of his Britannic Majesty, at Omoa, the 24th. of October, 1779.

(Signed) John Luttrell, (L. S.)
Wm. Dalrymple, (L. S.)

Signed on the part of his Catholic Majesty, at Omoa, the said 24th. of October, 1779.

Don Simon Desnaux, (L. S.)
Don Juan Dastiex, (L. S.)

We, the under-written, do ratify and confirm every part of this agreement, and hold ourselves bound for a due performance of it. Signed at Omoa, the 24th. of October, 1779.

(Signed) Josef de Cucilar,
Josef Eusebio Mellandez,
Pedro Tolle,
Manuel de Clariac.

List of Officers taken Prisoners of War at St. Fernando de Omoa, the 20th. of October, 1779:

Don Simon Desnaux, Governor and Engineer in second to his Catholic Majesty, and Lieutenant-Colonel of infantry; Don Antonio Fernandes, Lieutenant Governor and Lieutenant-Colonel; Don Joseph Fivallier, Captain of Artillery; Don Emanuel Clairac, Lieutenant of artillery; Don Joseph Mellendez, second Lieutenant of artillery; Don Pedro Tolle, Lieutenant of dragoons; Don Juan Darcier, Commandant and Captain of engineers; Don Joseph Antonio Matornia, Commissary; Don Juan Galendo, Comptroller; Seignor Francisco Garrochier, first Surgeon to the hospital; Seignor Britango, second Surgeon; Don Antonio Mercadilla, Chaplain; Don Diego Martarrez, Store-keeper; two Captains of register ships; three Priests; ten serjeants of artillery; one ditto dragoons; 355 rank and file; also a town Adjutant, name unknown at present.

(Signed) W. Dalrymple, Commander in Chief of the land forces.

Return of Artillery and Stores taken at Fort St. Fernando de Omoa, Oct. 20th., 1779:

Brass twenty-four pounders mounted, 6; twelve ditto, 2; four ditto, 6; four field pieces not mounted. Iron eighteen-pounders mounted, 10; twelve ditto, 8; three ditto, 1. Total mounted, 33.

Twenty-four pounders not mounted, 1; four ditto, 4; three ditto, 8; 1 ditto, 10. Total not mounted, 23. Swivels, 100. Brass Mortars, 13-inch, mounted on brass beds, 2.

Shot. Brass eighteen pounders, 127; four pounders, 365; one pounders, 107; iron twenty-four pounders, 36; eighteen pounders, 4,196; twelve pounders, 2,809; eight pounders, 273; six pounders, 195; four pounders, 2,990; three pounders, 174; one pounders, 832; bar shot, 18, weight 43 lb., 141.

Thirteen inch shells, 396; hand grenades, 900; muskets, 472; swords, 100; pistols (pairs 10), 20;

pick-axes, 300; hoes, 200; pit-saws, 3; ladles, 8; bullet moulds, 13; cask of bullets, 1; rounds of land-grage, 300; rounds of powder, filled for 33 guns, 20; twenty-four pounder carriages, old, 10; ditto new, 9; four pounder ship carriages, 4; chest of carpenters' tools, 1; bolts, plates, pins, and other iron work for ten carriages; 50 quintals of gunpowder, mostly damaged.

(Signed) Hans Carden, Captain Artillery and Engineer.

(Signed) W. Dalrymple, Commander in Chief of the land forces.

Return of killed and wounded acting on shore, at the Siege and attack of Fort St. Fernando de Omoa, Oct. 20, 1779:

Total—1 Midshipman, 5 men, killed; 1 subaltern, 13 men, wounded.

Names of the Officers killed and wounded:

Mr. Lloyd, Midshipman of the Lowestoffe, killed.

Second Lieut. Wightman, of the Chatham division of marines, wounded.

(Signed) W. Dalrymple, Commander in Chief of the land forces.

Admiralty Office, Dec. 11th., 1779.

Capt. Pakenham arrived at this office yesterday afternoon with a letter from the honourable John Luttrell, Captain of his Majesty's ship the Charon, to Mr. Stephens, dated at Omoa, the 27th. of October, 1779, of which the following is an extract:

Charon, in the Harbour of Omoa,
October 27th., 1779.

Sir,

I am to request you will be pleased to acquaint their lordships, that, in obedience to the orders I received from Sir Peter Parker, I sailed from Port Royal early in the morning of the 8th. of September last, and being joined in a few hours after by the Pomona, Lowestoffe, and Racehorse schooner, bore

away for the Spanish main, which, however, I was not able to reach, owing to calms and baffling winds, until the fifteenth. The next day we go to Rattan; and being apprehensive that the enemy's Register ships might pass to windward, and along their own shore, in case I carried all the squadron towards George's Key, I ordered Capt. Nugent, who was well acquainted at that place, to take the Racehorse up to George's Key, to procure, as expeditiously as possible, the most skilful pilots for Omoa and gulph of Dulce. Having so done, he was directed to join his ship at Key Boquel; then to repair to Glover's Reef, where I waited his arrival, having anchored the Charon and Lowestoffe there on the 19th. instant. The Monday morning following I had the mortification to learn by a boat which had escaped from George's Key, that it had been taken by the Spaniards five days, which made me very doubtful respecting the safety of Capt. Nugent; but I was relieved from that anxiety a few hours afterwards by the Pomona and Racehorse schooner appearing in sight. Upon their joining me with the pilots, I bore away for the gulph of Dulce, where we arrived in the evening of the 22d. There was no vessel of any nation to be seen in the gulph; I therefore, attended by the Capts. Parker and Nugent, with the marines of the squadron, and a party of seamen in the boats, pushed up the river, and landed at the Spanish warehouses before twelve that night, but found them totally abandoned and empty, except the remains of a few provisions, which seemed to indicate that the people had not been long gone. On the 23d. in the morning, I sent a number of men from the ships to the Racehorse, and directed Lieut. Trott to make the best of his way to Omoa, to reconnoitre the strength of the place, and to look for the ships which had sailed from Dulce, concluding that they would be found at that part. The next morning the Racehorse joined me at sea; from her I learned that the three ships were at anchor under the fort—two of them with

all an end, and the third with her yards and topmasts struck—and that the fortification did not appear to be a very strong one. Elate at the information, I made sail for Omoa, and getting close off the Port by twelve o'Clock at night, would have persuaded the pilot to have carried us in, which he luckily refused; for the next day when we came to approach the fortification, I found it was much too formidable an aspect to promise success by an attempt to force it; nor indeed would it have answered any good end, for the ships had all their yards and topmasts struck, and were lying up a creek, where we could not get at them had we even silenced nearly forty pieces of cannon which presented themselves to our view from the different batteries. The only hope, therefore, which remained of our being masters of these ships arose from a chance that we might catch them off Cape Antonio before our cruise terminated, which, in the possibility of events, I thought might happen; and I was making the best of my way with the ships to that station, stopping only two or three days to complete my water in the Bay of Truxillo, and to learn a further state of the English inhabitants in the Bay of Honduras.

I have now the pleasure to inform you of the fortunate escape of Capt. Nugent out of the hands of the Spaniards, and of the subsequent services performed by him at George's Key, where he arrived in the Racehorse in the evening of the 19th., having left the Pomona, as I directed, at Key Boquel. Capt. Nugent approached the shore in his boat, without the least suspicion that the Key was in the hands of the enemy; but before he could land, the boat was attacked by a number of batteaux; and when taken possession of by the Spaniards was nearly sinking, having received three shot through her, luckily without hurting anybody. But Capt. Nugent and his people were made prisoners; and when he got on shore, there was a parade for execution, such as a scaffold and a guard of soldiers, for it was understood to be the orders with

which the Spaniards came to attack the settlement, that everybody that was conquered, and had made resistance, should be put to death. But when they inquired, and found Capt. Nugent, who had no arms in the boat, and did not resist, they contented themselves with blindfolding, stripping, and handcuffing him; he was confined with his boat's crew in a close prison. During their operations, a great number of batteaux, assisted by an armed schooner, attacked the Racehorse, and attempted to board her; but she was so gallantly and obstinately defended by Lieut. Trott, his officers and people, that the Spaniards were repulsed with great slaughter. On board the Racehorse two men only were killed and three wounded. When the Racehorse had beaten off the Spaniards, she repaired immediately to bring up the Pomona from Key Boquel; and as soon as the frigate appeared in sight, the Spaniards, to the amount of about 500, took to their craft, and quitted the Key with great precipitation, leaving Capt. Nugent, his people, and the inhabitants, in close confinement, from which they released themselves; and Capt. Nugent in his boat retook possession of a brig which was aground, and the Spaniards had captured when they came into the harbour. This brig, at the solicitation of the inhabitants who had furnished her with seamen, Capt. Nugent armed, and sent to the river Belez to cover the embarkation of the property there belonging to the English settlers; with directions that she should, after performing that service, repair in quest of the ships under my command, and, in case of not meeting with us, make the best of their way to Jamaica. Thinking this information too incomplete to dispatch the Racehorse with to Jamaica, I directed Lieut. Trott, as soon as we had quitted Omoa, to go in quest of the brig to the river Belez, and afterwards to repair to George's Key, and land the people who had served as pilots, and were desirous of being put on shore there; and after making such other enquiries as I thought neces-

sary to direct him so to do, I ordered her to join the squadron in the bay of Truxillo, where she arrived the 4th. of October, and informed me that the brig, armed by Capt. Nugent, had nearly collected the different settlers in the bay; that 70 of them were on board, and more than 200 under her escort in small craft; and that he had directed them to Truxillo, in their way to Black River. They, however, did not appear while I was there; and the King's ships being wooded and watered, I put to sea with them, having directed Lieut. Trott to give every assistance in his power towards forwarding the brig with the baymen to Black River on the Mosquito shore, if they arrived at Truxillo while he was taking in his water. The pilots of the Racehorse carried to George's Key, finding no King's vessels there, or security for their persons, left it; and the inhabitants of every settlement we claim in the bay relinquished their property, not thinking it tenable against the superior numbers of the Spaniards, and were removing as fast as possible, some to Jamaica, but the major part of them to Black River on the Mosquito shore. In this disagreeable situation were things in the bay of Honduras when I left it upon the 4th. of October; but on the 7th. fortune changed her face upon us, and presented to our view the Porcupine sloop of war, having under her convoy a detachment of troops belonging to the Loyal Irish, and some Mosquito Indians under the command of Captain Commandant Dalrymple, who was as desirous as myself of making a land and sea attack upon the garrison of Omoa and the Spanish galleons. I therefore took immediate measures to secure the services of these people, who had been driven from St. George's Key, by making sail myself for Truxillo, and dispatching the frigates to Bonaccoa and Utilla, in quest of our vessels with the baymen. Lieut. Trott, of the Racehorse, I sent to Rattan on the same service. They all returned to me with expedition and success, bringing a reinforcement of 250 men. We forthwith set to

work, made escalading ladders, fascines, sand-bags, and every other requisite in our power for carrying on a siege. Having settled the plan of attack, I gave full instructions to the Captains and officers who were to carry it into execution; and in the morning of the 10th. of October, I sailed with the Lowestoffe, Pomona, Porcupine, Racehorse, three schooners, and a number of small craft, for Porto Cavallo bay, and anchored the fleet there close in shore.

On the evening of the 16th., Capt. Pakenham, to whom I intrusted the command of landing the troops, executed my orders in so officerlike and expeditious a manner that the whole was formed and marched from the beach before eleven o'Clock that night. From the intricacy of the roads, and other circumstances, our troops were prevented from making any great progress before the next morning, when they pushed forward with great alacrity to gain the commanding ground on the Governor's house; and having driven away the Spaniards, who contended for the possession of it, we occupied that very important post, but was so annoyed by the enemy's musketry from the town as to compel our troops to set fire to it. In the midst of the flames I arrived off the harbour of Omoa; and the wind, I flattered myself, would have carried us close to the enemy's batteries. I therefore made the signal for the Lowestoffe to lead us to action; it was obeyed by Capt. Parker with alacrity and spirit. When we opened the Eastern point, the enemy began to fire at the Lowestoffe, Charon, Pomona, and Porcupine; but no shot were returned till their guns had so lulled the wind as to leave us little prospect of getting nearer to them; so that, rather to cover ourselves from their aim by smoke than to look for success from a distant cannonade, the Charon and Lowestoffe began to fire. The Pomona was not able to get within reach of her guns, and as soon as I had the power I laid the ship's head to the offing. A breeze springing up soon after to the northward, I made the signal to tack, thinking

we should certainly fetch where we wished to do; in this, however, we were disappointed, the wind baffling and forsaking us. The Lowestoffe ran ashore, and received a heavy fire from the enemy, but she got off again; before our boats could get to their assistance her hull, masts, and yards were so much disabled as to oblige me to send her to anchor to leeward, and there refit. The Charon's rudder was choked by a shot, which filled the space between it and the stern-post with splinters; part of her wheel was shot away, and the mizzen-mast badly wounded. On the 18th., Capt. Dalrymple being anxious for artillery being sent up to a battery he was constructing on the Governor's hill, I ordered the guns from the Porcupine to be landed; they were drawn up by the sailors through a heavy road, and up a steep ascent, to a spot where they did notable execution. But our time being precious from various considerations, and the heat of the climate making this duty more fatiguing to our people, it was concluded on, between Capt. Dalrymple and myself, to attempt an escalade the following morning, and the King's ships to co-operate by cannonading the wall against the sea. I made the signal settled for the attack. I weighed at three o'Clock, the Pomona and Lowestoffe standing for the eastern, and the Charon for the western angle of the fort, which I began to cannonade; when Capt. Dalrymple, in a most gallant and exemplary manner, stormed on the land side with the seamen and marines, and subdued the enemy with the loss of little blood. We took immediate possession of two registered ships richly laden, which, with the cargoes of other vessels of less note, will amount to the sum of three millions of piasters (or dollars). The fort is an amazing pile of building; the greatest part of it is an admirable fort of stone, the remainder is brick. It has cost to the Spaniards twenty-five years' labour, and the lives of thousands of their subjects. Since it has been taken, we are astonished, from the strength of it, that

it was so easily vanquished. The Spanish Governor is very solicitous to ransom the fort, and has offered three hundred thousand dollars for it. The two hundred and fifty quintals of quicksilver which came from Old Spain, and which we have now taken, the Spaniards would have bought at any price, saying they would give double the value of it, because they should have no other means to work any of the valuable mines in the province. Their reasons for wishing it determined me not to part from a single ounce of the quicksilver, nor would I consent to ransom the fort. The number of prisoners in the enemy's fort, you will find by the inclosed return, far exceeded the troops that stormed it, and whose undaunted behaviour has added so much lustre to the British arms. Their humanity has not been less conspicuous than their bravery; nor can there be a greater contrast than between the treatment received by the King's subjects at George's Key which surrendered at discretion, and the Spanish garrison of Omoa though taken by storm. Capt. Dalrymple's orders and my wishes have been punctually obeyed, even by the Mosquito men, and those of Honduras that received such ill treatment. Proper respect has been shown to the Governor, Spanish officers, soldiers, and inhabitants; neither clothes, watches, pocket money, or other effects have been taken from these prisoners. The ornaments of the church the captors have agreed to give back if the Spanish Court does punctually comply with the agreement respecting the exchange of prisoners. The uniform bravery and good conduct of all the officers and seamen under my command may make it appear ungracious to mark particular people; but the services rendered by Capt. Pakenham and Lieut. Trott call for my most earnest recommendation of them to their Lordships' favour. The former gentleman, who is the bearer of these dispatches, can give more perfect information respecting the reduction of this fort and settlement. Capt. Nugent has exerted himself upon

every point of duty in a distinguished manner. I am not acquainted with the merits of individuals that served on shore, except that Commandant Dalrymple is certainly entitled to infinite honour and praise for the gallant manner in which he led the troops to the escalade. Capt. Carden exhibited many proofs of his abilities as an engineer and a soldier. I must leave it with Captain Commandant Dalrymple to give due praise to all those whose services on shore call for it; he will, I am sure, take notice of Lieut. Wightman, of the marines, who was wounded under the enemy's walls, and of all those who have deserved it at his hands. I have the pleasure to assure their Lordships that the most perfect harmony and co-operation have subsisted between the King's troops employed at sea and on shore. Such services as have been in my power to render my country, I trust, will prove acceptable to his Majesty.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble servant,

John Luttrell.

A return of the killed and wounded on board his Majesty's ships Charon, Lowestoffe, and Porcupine, in an action against the Catholic King's fort of St. Ferdinando de Omoa, on the 17th. of Oct., 1779:

Charon, 1 killed, 6 wounded; Lowestoffe, 3 killed, 5 wounded; Porcupine, 1 killed.

A return of the killed and wounded on board the Racehorse armed vessel at St. George's Key, in the Bay of Honduras, the 13th. of Sept., 1779:

Racehorse, 2 killed, 5 wounded.

The return of the garrison and of the artillery and stores are the same as printed above.

—*Almon's Remembrancer, IX., 50.*

(Private.) Jamaica, Oct. 20th., 1779.

Sir:

I appoint you to a command because I think you

a good Officer, equal to the task, and in order that by such an Expedition you may have a right to demand what the soldier thirsts for—honour and rank; that having chosen you for the above purpose, I expect a thorough obedience to all my orders; that you correspond on public matters with no one but myself, and I farther insist that even, should opportunity offer, you take not on yourself, on any account whatever, to transmit the least information of your operations home, but to me only. Every assistance in my power you may depend upon. Should it so happen that I perceive a deviation from what is required, 'tis ingenuous, and according to my nature, to be open with you, and be assured a superior Officer will be sent down; but I am convinced there will not be occasion, and that at the same time you are gathering Laurels for yourself you will ever consider yourself as acting from my authority, and that the friendship and esteem I have manifested for you will produce everything I could wish, or expect. Health and success be your portion. I am, &c.,

John Dalling.

To Captain Commandant William Dalrymple.

Instructions to Captain Commandant Dalrymple sent after him.

Jamaica, Oct. the 20th., 1779.

Sir:

Mr. Collins, who is the bearer of these dispatches to you, and will give you every information as to my intentions, is both capable and willing. I therefore recommend him to your countenance and protection, and I think it most advisable for you at present not to undertake anything.

You will prepare as many Indians and White people as you can for an Expedition intended to take place about the middle of January, that being fixed on as the most proper time, and acquaint me as soon as possible of the number of each to be depended on.

Everything thought necessary will be sent from Jamaica, and you will have early notice of the sailing of the troops from hence, in order to form a junction in the harbour of St. Juan; immediately on its taking place you may find it right to erect Batteries and throw up such other works as may be thought necessary for the defence of that Harbour, as well as to fortify a place up the River for the security of Provisions and Stores. When these things are finished, or finishing, you will push for the fort at the entrance of the Lake, and, after taking it, launch the Vessels as speedily as possible, so as to command it.

Your next object, I should think, will be getting possession of the town of Granada at the opposite end, and if possible that of Leon, but your own judgement must direct you according to those circumstances; it would perhaps be better to ransom the towns and other places to the westward of the Lake, keeping possession of that. You will find one of the Islands in the Lake cultivated, with a number of Indians upon it. Mr. Collins will point it out; it will be very necessary to secure and strengthen it.

Every means must be used to gain the good-will of the Indians, and a proclamation issued, holding out advantages to the Spaniards, Indians, and others; insuring the safety of their produce, opening a commerce with them, and assuring all that they shall be established in the conquered country, supported by the Arms of the King of Great Britain, and be exonerated from taxes of every kind.

You will take with you as many carpenters, who have been used to putting together or building Vessels, as you can muster.

I shall give Mr. Collins a commission to command the Vessels on the Lake, and will send other commissions to the Shore, to be filled up by you and the Superintendent; and entirely approve of the Scheme of raising the Black River Company.

I shall send you some Volunteers and Soldiers

under the command of Ensign Schomberg, of the 79th. Regiment, who is to act under Lieut. Carden. The Volunteers' Officers must be kept as separately as possible from the King's Troops, as their rank is to extend no farther than their own body.

I think that 150 Regulars, 200 Volunteers, 200 Shore and Baymen, with 700 Indians, will be a force sufficient to undertake the Expedition; and I make no doubt but many accidental people will join so as to augment the force to 1,500. I must beg your opinion immediately on this head.

I have appointed Mr. Hercules Ross General Agent for everything relative to the Shore and Bay; all Bills must therefore be drawn on him. Anything you may think necessary, which has not been sent from this, you will provide; at the same time I must recommend to you the strictest economy.

The Captain's Commission for the Black Company of the Shore I send you blank, as I think the Superintendent should have the compliment of filling it up, and I make no doubt but he will appoint a proper person. The Lieutenant's Commission shall be sent to be filled up by you. On the return of Collins I shall forward to you a particular Commission for yourself, as well as one for Engineer Carden.

October the 29th.

I am extremely sorry for the loss of St. George's Key; but the Spanish Government, being determined to break with us in spite of our generous conduct and attention to them as a neutral Nation, of course could give the necessary intimation of war to their Colonies before it was in our power to do the same. However, no time was lost on our side. It is supposed that advice was delayed being sent to the Bay by the Mosquito Settlers from interested views; indeed, it is evident from the Superintendent's letter, which mentions the arrival of the advice-Boat from this Island at Cape Gracias a Dios on the 29th. August, and the Key was

not taken till the 15th. of September; therefore, the delay was unpardonable, as, had an advice-Boat been immediately sent there, the Settlers would have had time to prepare for the defence of the Key, and in all probability have saved it, or at least saved themselves, from captivity.

The expense of Mr. Hoare's Schooner, as well as the Indian Crafts, must be allowed, the obviously tending to the general good.

As all men that can be got will be wanted for the serious purpose of the intended expedition, the object of Rattan Island, however worthy of consideration, must at present give way to it; and as to the fortifying Truxillo, I flatter myself the Spaniard will find such employment elsewhere that the Shore need not be under the least apprehension. Torry, I also believe, will turn out a bugbear. I am not sorry that the attack against Baccalar is to be laid aside.

Mr. Shakespeare will be ordered to the St. Blas Indians with the necessary presents, and with directions to join you at ——.

Your own judgment must direct you as to the uses to be made of the Indians. Improperly made use of, they will be of no service; if otherwise, I suppose they will not only be necessary, but even of the greatest consequence.

I wish to have your opinion whether Cape Gracias a Dios or Bluefields will be the most proper place of rendezvous for the intended Expedition.

The Superintendent has been informed that you have directions to communicate my dispatches to him; I flatter myself you will find him in every respect ready, and with a knowledge of matters from which you will draw all necessary uses.

You were made acquainted, I believe, before your departure from this Island, that Government intended sending out a quantity of arms and ammunition for the freebooters and Indians, which, I flatter myself, will arrive before the month of January; but, for fear

they should not, I am now collecting some arms and presents, with everything which you will want for the Settlers and Indians; they shall be forwarded to you in small parcels, apprehensive of accidents in the passage. After your having had all necessary communication with Collins, you will forthwith direct his return to me, as I shall be very anxious to have your opinion of every matter relative to my views, and that we may hit the time in which operations can be only carried on in particular parts of the world with any probability of success.

Mr. Ross will forward to you an account of what Stores Collins has on board. All other necessary matters will be getting in readiness during his absence. Your brother has requested to be employed. I think I cannot do a more agreeable thing to you than to join you. The Spanish Proclamation shall be sent down to you.

John Dalling.

Instructions to Capt. Polson.

You are to proceed to Cape Gracias a Dios, where you are to conform yourself in every respect to the orders lately transmitted to Captain-Commandant Dalrymple, who is supposed to have gone to Europe, of which orders the foregoing is a copy.

You will make it your business to have an interview with the Superintendent as soon as possible, with whom you will consult as to everything whereby the intended Expedition may be facilitated; and, as our operations must commence sometime in January, and consequently dispatch is indispensably necessary, I must Desire the utmost activity in forwarding matters on your part; on mine, nothing shall be wanting from this Island.

I give you Commissions for the Black Company raised on the Mosquito Shore, and also Commissions for any Gentlemen of the Shore or Bay who may be willing to join in the intended Expedition.

I make no doubt but the Superintendent will give with ardour every possible assistance. I wish to know in what light he would like to be considered, that I may do what will be satisfactory to him, which I presume will be conducive to the good of the Service. Your attention to him, for the same good end, will, I dare say, be generously given.

The rank given to volunteers is necessary to keep up a due subordination among themselves, intended to give them pay with the Regulars, and a share of whatever booty may be taken from the Enemy according to such rank; but it is not meant that they should rank in any shape with the King's Regular Forces. The Rank given to the Staff and Engineers on the Expedition is not to extend to the Line, where they are only to do Duty according to the Dates of their Commissions from His Majesty.

It is possible that Captain-Commandant Dalrymple may have proceeded in quest of his Brother to Omoa, though I hope he has landed his men and Stores at the Cape, according to orders; Should it be otherwise, Lieut. Mounsey had directions for his return to the Shore, in order to make the most speedy junction with the Superintendent. Full directions, on such a necessity, will be found in the instructions to Captain-Commandant Dalrymple, lately forwarded by Mr. Collins, whose return I anxiously long for, as he must necessarily bring me information respecting the number of men that may be depended upon from the Shore and the Bay, exclusive of Indians.

Mr. Shakespeare is sailed for the St. Blas Indians, with presents, in order to know what may be depended upon from them.

By the time you get down to the Shore, I hope Mr. Mounsey will be returned from Omoa, and that he will present you with your Commission to take the command on the Continent; but should Captain-Commandant Dalrymple be still there and expediting matters with the Superintendent, then you may return to

me, though I would rather wish you to continue second in command and desire that Captain-Commandant Dalrymple may appoint you to the most important place which may fall into his hands—the more advanced the better, that the active service of so good an officer may not be too immediately lost.

Enclosed you have a power for holding General Courts Martial.

Perhaps you may find that the Corn Islands or that of Providence should be chosen for the rendezvous.

Pilots shall be sent down for the Coast.

The Corps of Carpenters you will find useful in many respects; for, should the vessel now preparing be inadequate to the purposes intended, these people, taking with them whatever is necessary for putting Vessels together, will be able to prepare such as may be wanted for the command of the Lake, in a very short space of time after your possessing Fort St. Juan.

There appear to be rivers communicating from the South side of the Lake near to the above Fort, with the *Golfo de las Salinas* on the Southern ocean in the province of Costa Rica, taking the Cities between the Lake and Gulf, and that it would not be difficult to go from thence up the River Carthago, and after taking the City of that name to return by Carpenter's River (Rio Matina) to the North Sea.

This Expedition may either be undertaken in consequence of not being able to get farther than the Fort St. Juan, taking that Fort or not; or by detachment after possessing the Fort and the Lake.

Perhaps, if you find Carthago an object of sufficient importance, it may be advisable to proceed against it from Carpenter's River in preference to the above route; but this I leave to your own judgment, from the information you will be able to procure on the Spot.

In case matters should have been at all attended to on the Shore, I see hardly a possibility of not succeeding in whole or in part; but should it unfortunately turn out, from the Superintendent's remissness, the want

of a sufficient strength, or any other cause, that the undertaking is too great for the Force which may be collected, I then direct you, rather than remain idle, to make any other attack from which honour may accrue to His Majesty's Arms, and detriment arise to our Enemy. I would, however, in all events, have you well consider the importance of my first object, which must not be relinquished but after the most mature consideration.

On reflection, the Officers of Provincial or volunteer Companies must have some rank with the King's Troops during the service, and I judge it expedient, therefore, that Ensigns of the Regulars shall rank with Lieutenants of such companies, Lieutenants of Regulars with Captains, and Captains of Regulars with all Field Officers.

Accurate Drafts and surveys of all Places are to be taken by the gentlemen who act as Engineers, and I beg they may be kept closely to this business whenever not otherwise employed, that such drawings and surveys may be transmitted to me (keeping copies of them), and that you recommend to them the necessity of preserving such things with all possible secrecy. I wish you to be most careful of all species of Provisions, endeavouring to supply your forces with fresh whenever in your power, which I am told will not be difficult; fish you will find in abundance, and Salt you will have with you.

I recommend that the second in command be made acquainted with your instruction from the beginning to the end; that he be master of all determinations between you and the Superintendent; and that in case fort St. Juan should fall into your hands, you put it immediately into the best state of defence, remaining there yourself, and forwarding him on all services you may then think necessary for the glory of His Majesty's Arms, or proceeding yourself leaving to him the command of that Garrison. You go forth, Sir, amply supplied with everything you can possibly stand

in need of, and your instructions I conceive to be as explicit as the case will admit of. However, it being impossible to instruct or advise as to many circumstances which must necessarily in future arise, I have a thorough confidence both in your conduct and prudence, and of consequence you may be assured not only of my approbation, but support. I need not point out to you, who have been so much used to service, that deference and respect due to the opinion of the naval power which the admiral may be pleased to send down with you.

I have appointed James Thompson to the command of the Black River Company on a supposition that the Superintendent, being put at the head of the Volunteers of the Shore and Bay, as well as the whole body of Indians, would choose to waive the command of that particular Company, to which he otherwise would have been appointed.

In case only one Officer should be dispatched from the Shore, and he of the Navy, I should wish him to deliver my Dispatch at Fort Charles ; in case he should be of the Army, then he is immediately to put his Dispatches for the Admiral on board the Flag-ship, and repair to me ; in either case, or should two Officers be sent, 'twill be very necessary, and according to military ideas, that they should be instructed not to reveal any kind of intelligence, until the sanction of the Commanders here be first had ; care likewise should be taken that the people coming up with them should be enjoined to secrecy.

I must again request of you to pay the greatest attention to your provisions and stores of all kinds, as well those already forwarded to the Cape, as those you carry with you ; and I also beg your attention to the following paragraph in the last dispatch from the Superintendent of the Shore, that "the commanding Officer on the Expedition should be instructed to avoid giving any disgust to the Indians, by depriving them of their private plunder, which might occasion a

general defection, and prove fatal to the enterprise." To this I must add my positive directions to all officers serving under you, that they interfere not in any respect whatever with the Indians but from your orders, and that they take every step that the soldiers have little connection with them, in order to avoid the possibility of disgust on their side; this to be inculcated in the most strong manner, with assurance that a neglect of so necessary a piece of duty will produce dismission to the Officers of the volunteers, and trial by a General Court Martial to the Officers of the King's Regular Forces. The necessity of keeping such people in good humour is obvious; inconsistencies and even absurdities from them must not be combated.

The more immediately you depart from the place of general rendezvous the better, for the more feeble and less prepared you will find the Enemy to be; and I would advise the proceeding, even if the whole expected force should not be gathered together, rather than the Enemy should have time, after your arrival, to penetrate your design in consequence of delay.

John Dalling.

List of Troops in the Expedition, 1779.

Capt. Polson, Colonel and Commander in Chief, 60th. Regiment; Lieut. Mounsey, Adjutant-General, 79th. Regiment; Capt. Hallam, Deputy Quarter Master General, 60th. Regiment; Lieut. Despard, Engineer, 79th. Regiment; Ensign Schomberg, Sub-Engineer, 79th. Regiment; Thomas Dancer, Surgeon-General; Gallagher, Hospital Mate; Alexander Shaw, Commissary of Provisions and Deputy Agent; Samuel Jones, Store Keeper of Artillery; Napier, Lieutenant Fire worker; Triple and Munro, Conductors of Artillery.

60th. Regiment, or Royal American Regiment of Foot: Lieut. George Browne, Lieut. James Fahey,

Lieut. Patrick Haldimand, Lieut. Edward Davis, 3 Serjeants, 5 Corporals, 3 Drummers and Fifers, 77 Privates.

79th. Regiment, or Royal Liverpool Volunteers: Capt. Andrew Despard, Capt. Richard Bulkely, Lieut. William Colvill, Lieut. Vesey Knox, Lieut. Thomas Mounsey, Lieut. Crisp Chand. Gascoyne, Lieut. Thomas Owen Leigh, Ensign Tymperley, 9 Serjeants, 9 Corporals, 4 Drummers and Fifers, 159 Privates.

Loyal Irish Corps: Capt. William Causab. Harrison, Capt. Samuel Dalrymple, Capt. Edmond Harte, Lieut. Daniel Leo, Lieut. Christopher Dowlin, Ensign W. Sheldon, 4 Serjeants, 3 Corporals, 3 Drummers and Fifers, 96 Privates.

General Return of Troops encamped on Wanks Savannah, Feb. 28, 1780:

Regulars. Officers, 27; Subalterns, 16; Drummers, 7; Rank and File, 349.

Artillery. Officers, 4.

Volunteers. Officers, 18; Subalterns, 14; Drummers, 8; Rank and File, 183.

State of the Mosquito Shore Volunteers, Capt. David Lamb's report of the Black River Company, James Lawrie, Major Commandant, March, 1780.

Number that actually came to St. John's on the Expedition: Capt. James Thomson's Company.—7 officers, 2 Drummers, 33 privates. Capt. Edward Caddle's Company.—26 privates, 3 dead.

Volunteers not Embodied, 22 privates.

Indian Department. — 3 Captains (viz.: Daniel Lamb, J. Wright, J. Potts) and Lieut. Patterson.

N. B. Capt. Lamb of the Indian Department and Ensign S. House held each two Commissions—the first an Adjutant, and the latter Quarter Master.

Instructions for Colonel Kemble.

On your arrival at St. John's Harbour, the security

of that post will become the first object of your attention. Should Col. Polson have overlooked its consequence, or omitted due regard to its security, you are immediately to rectify deficiencies, and strengthen its defence by the additional number of heavy cannon sent with you on this occasion.

It may be necessary in general to suggest that all Batteries for the defence of harbours ought to be situated on the highest possible ground, and distant three hundred yards from the nearest approach of any Ship which may be brought against it; those batteries ought to be always shut up in the rear, either with a breast work or Stockade, to prevent the possibility of a Surprise, and the whole surrounded by an Abbatis.

The Castle of St. John's will become the Second object of your attention, although there is scarcely a doubt but it has fallen to the troops under Col. Polson; yet, Should it be otherwise, the utmost expedition must be used in forwarding to him the two Royal Howitzers, with their mortar beds, sent with you on this occasion, which are by far the best kind of Artillery for reducing a Castle of that nature, with a moral degree of Certainty. That post in your possession, you are to fortify it in the best manner possible, and if it commands a landing place on the Lake of Nicaragua, give strength to its defence, to render that landing permanently secure.

Should the Castle of St. John's be too far retired to give absolute protection to such boats and armed craft as are already launched into the Lake of Nicaragua, redoubts must be erected on the most advantageous grounds commanding such a landing place. Redoubts with a large block house in each, of which I send you a plan and section, are by far the best kind of works for a service of this kind; they are best adapted to extreme varieties of broken ground, may be made of Logs of Wood or Earth, with little labour, and so placed as to afford material reciprocal defence

in case of an Attack ; 50 Men are enough for each of those redoubts.

If you can muster a sufficiency of armed craft and Vessels for transporting your force across the Lake of Nicaragua, and that your Intelligence is such that give you the most sanguine hopes of success against Granada, the attack of that city may be proceeded upon with the utmost dispatch ; Leon and Realejo attempted under the same favourable impressions, but you are to consider Realejo the ultimatum of your pursuit at this juncture.

Should the state of the Enemy's force appear too powerful for the execution of the whole or part of these enterprises with effect, and of which you may have very accurate information by scout boats sent alongside of the Lake of Nicaragua, you ought to bend your attention to the village of Nicaragua, on the River Partido, lay hold of the post, and with the utmost accuracy and precision examine the country between the Lake and the Southern Ocean, how far it is capable of being occupied as a stronghold ; its advantages and disadvantages in that respect ; and the probability of maintaining a force there in spite of the Spaniards ; whether there is any Bay on the Southern continent, opposite to it, capable of containing a fleet of Ships ; if the soundings in it are good ; the country healthy and sufficiently supplied with Water and Wood for the purposes of a fleet and army stationed there.

Another object of your early attention ought to be, to take post on one of the most fertile Islands in the Lake of Nicaragua possessing a safe, commodious harbour for your small craft ; this Island ought also to be secured with redoubts above the power of risk or insult.

By establishing a chain of posts of this nature, and by which your communications may be kept up with safety, you will have it in your power to act with double energy and success against the Spaniard, and

can retire with security into any strongholds, should he press you with unexpected Superiority.

The health of the troops ought at all times to become the chief object of your care; no opportunity ought to be lost or labour spared to effect that valuable purpose. Whilst the Carpenters are employed in erecting proper sheds and houses for their residence, provisions and live stock of every kind ought to be collected from the neighbourhood, and a depot formed for each of the posts which you have determined to occupy.

Your armed Vessels ought to be constantly employed in Sweeping the Lake of Nicaragua in every direction, as well for the purpose of intelligence as for destroying any force the Enemy may attempt to show in opposition to you afloat.

A thorough knowledge of the Seasons with respect to land operations on that side of the continent, as well as those for the fleet on the Southern coast and your armed craft upon the Lake, ought to be minutely and accurately ascertained.

Four dispatch canoes, with a Swivel in the bow of each, and some armed Sailors ought constantly to ply from Fort St. John's to the mouth of the river, for the purpose of maintaining your communication with the troops left in post at the harbour of St. John's, and to give the earliest intelligence of the Enemy's motions on that Side; the like attention ought to be paid to the posts which you may find necessary to establish on the Lake.

Should the Enemy during the absence of the Ships of War from St. John's harbour appear with such a Superior force as may not be in your power to combat, or should they ever cut off the detachment at the harbour of St. John's before it is in your power to succour them, then you are not to think your situation desperate; their progress up the river may be disputed inch by inch; your forts and redoubts can be defended handsomely, and when every exertion in that respect

is found ineffectual, which can only take place after infinite labour and difficulties to them, you can retreat to your Island by means of the Craft in your possession, and maintain yourself there for a considerable length of time; dealing destruction to their Army by fatigues and distress, whilst the movements of your detachment will become easy and secure.

As there is, however, a possibility of your quitting that station, and as a very superior force may, by cutting off your retreat by St. John's, at last oblige you to withdraw yourself from the Lake of Nicaragua, it is necessary to know that you can retreat either by the way of Indian River or Bluefields, as the nature of your information on the spot may best direct your footsteps. Mena is but three days' march from Bluefields river, and as it is but an Indian track or path, your Artillery and stores must be either sunk or destroyed before such an alternative is adopted.

But as there is not the least probability that the Spaniards will either have power or activity to reduce your detachment to that extremity, you will remain quietly in that post, and wait the issue of future orders from me respecting farther operations on the Lake.

In the communication of these Orders, it is by no means meant that you are regularly and pointedly to follow them step by step; it would be improper to tie you down to particulars on this occasion; you are to guide yourself by information and occurring circumstances, and to remember that, although those suggestions are meant to furnish you with the general Objects of my wish, and with such Ideas as have occurred from the imperfect knowledge hitherto received of the State of that country, yet you are notwithstanding to consider yourself in possession of the fullest powers to act on this occasion as you shall think best for the good of his Majesty's service. This I give you in confidence, trusting to your Zeal, Spirit, and Discretion that powers so extensive and

liberal will be used with the utmost propriety and Effect.

After these Services are over, and if Col. Polson does not go home, you will return immediately to Jamaica, and bring with you copies of all Sketches made by the Engineers under your Command, or other Charts, descriptions, or informations in Writing as may best elucidate not only the progress of his or your march through that quarter of the Continent, but also the Geography, Nature, Strength, and extent of the country to which your operations have been confined, and as far as your knowledge may extend ; but should Col. Polson go home. you are to dispatch immediately to me the most intelligent officer of your detachment with the above specified charts and informations, which, I again repeat, must be as full and explicit as possible. John Dalling.

To the above instructions may be added the following remarks:

1st. That there is a good military road from the Lake to the City of Cartago, the distance being about 5 days' easy march. Cartago is only a day's march from the upper part of the Rio Matina, and troops, as it is asserted, have been transported from thence to the Nicaragua by this route. If, then, upon the fullest information you shall find this account to be literally true, it will be certainly expedient to secure this important pass as soon as you are a complete master of the Lake ; perhaps it will be found necessary to seize on that Wealthy though defenceless city previous to your possessing yourself of the City of Granada and places at a considerable distance ; above all, be particular in carrying every place where Boats and other kinds of Craft are to be had, for reasons that must appear obvious.

2d. You are to observe whether Cavalry, as it is asserted, can proceed from Bluefields along the Sea Shore to the River Matina ; as likewise whether, as

reported, there be a direct Mule or Cattle track leading from this river to the town of Cartago by which Royal Howitzers may be served against that City, in case of any resistance, and, as the broad road to the Lake commences there, whether a Body of horse may not be the more easily dispatched to your assistance should your situation so require.

3d. You are to remark that, as the City of Cartago is an opulent one, and that troops, as I am informed, have been frequently sent from thence to St. John's Fort by the great road leading from thence to the Lake of Nicaragua, you must endeavour to ascertain whether it will not be more expedient for me to attack that place in force by the town of Matina, and so proceed from thence to the Lake, than to attack it by detachment from St. John's; if, however, it should be found upon examination that your force, when in possession of St. John's and the Lake, be adequate to the attempt, I leave it entirely to your judgement and discretion to act therein as you may think proper.

4th. Should you find it necessary to engage or at any time to impress Slaves, in order to forward the service, you have my full authority so to do, and to promise the Masters of all such Slaves as may be killed or taken off by the Enemy, that they shall be paid for at the rate of —— each, as well as a moderate indemnification for any boats that might be lost when actually employed in the Service.

You will find the Superintendent an Intelligent, Sensible man, ready to obey your commands and to afford you every assistance in his power. Your attention to him upon all occasions I make no doubt of, and nothing will be more flattering to him than your listening to his recommendations of Officers to be appointed to the Bay Men.

5th. The whole of the Corps of the Bay Men, &c., are paid by Mr. Ross in the same manner as the King's troops; his deputy, now with Col. Polson, has directions on that head.

6th. You have £500 allowed you for secret Services. I have not a doubt but it will be made use of with the greatest propriety, but at the same time let me recommend to you to be as frugal as possible, not only in that, but in everything else.

7th. In case of death or Sickness among the Officers of the regular troops, you are empowered to appoint such persons as you may think proper to do duty as officers, in order that the Service may not Suffer.

8th. 1 Subaltern, 2 Serjeants, and 40 rank and file to be left at the harbour of St. John's, exclusive of its proper garrison, for the purpose of being transported to the Island of Rattan whenever the Officer destined for the command of that Island shall call for them at St. John's harbour.

9th. The Subaltern's rank must not exceed that of a Lieutenant bearing date the 30th. of Sept., 1775, and his Detachment must consist of the Convalescent regulars of your Army.

John Dalling.

Jamaica, April [8], 1780.

Memorandum.

Floating batteries may be of the greatest utility for the harbour as well as the different parts of the river or Lake. It may be also necessary to have some Provisions as well as military Stores, for advanced Services, in depot as high up the river as possible, that, when by a greater quantity of water in the river, they may be ready to be forwarded even to the Lake itself; indeed, the nearer all things are to the main body the safer they will be.

John Dalling.

April ye 8th., 1780.

To Lieut.-Col. Kemble.

Sir:

In obedience to the commands of the Superintend-

ent, I did myself the honour of writing to your Excellency by Capt. Ogle, acquainting you of the apprehensions of the Inhabitants of the Shore, that the Settlement at Black River would be invaded by the Spaniards from the interior parts of the Country.

On the very morning of Capt. Ogle's departure the Spanish Army appeared, and in the course of Two days made themselves Masters of the whole Settlement. Their number, and the quickness and regularity of their approaches rendered all opposition vain; and as the place was untenable, the Inhabitants few and ill-armed, it was absolutely necessary to escape with the utmost expedition.

It does not appear from their proceedings that the Spaniards mean to keep any long possession of the Settlement, As they have already burnt and destroyed all the houses, plantations, and sugar works.

It is impossible to describe to your Excellency the exceeding distress and misery to which the Inhabitants are now reduced; many have lost their whole fortunes, and I am afraid, as the principal part of the people have retired into the Mosquito Country, where provisions are not very plenty, that numbers will perish for want of the necessaries of life.

About three hundred (Slaves included) have escaped to this Island, where they mean to remain until they are made acquainted with your Excellency's sentiments respecting their future destination.

The Fort erected at Port Royal Harbour will, I hope, be sufficient to protect us for some time against Small Vessels, but I much fear that we shall not be able to find subsistence for longer than one month, as Provisions are very scarce, and indeed hardly sufficient for the families already settled here.

It is the general wish of the people to return to the Shore, provided your Excellency could, with propriety, station a Ship there for their protection; or should your Excellency be of opinion that the settling of this Island is a more eligible plan, they will continue here

until the fate of the Shore is determined by Government.

It is more than probable that the Enemy, flushed with their Success on the Continent, will endeavour to attack this place, in which case it must fall, as the Military Stores are inadequate to its defence; and, in fact, should the Spaniards appear with any Considerable force, nothing but the presence of Ships of war could possibly preserve it.

My employment as Secretary to the Superintendent and keeper of the records of the Colony has induced the people who have escaped to make choice of me to represent to your Excellency their unhappy Situation, in full confidence that your Excellency, from the humanity and benevolence of your disposition, will take every necessary measure for their protection and relief.

I beg leave to refer you to Capt. Robert Nicholson (who will deliver this letter to your Excellency) for further information.

I am, Sir, your Excellency's
Most obedient Humble Servant,
Daniel Young.

Port Royal Harbour, Rattan,
April 15th., 1780.
To Governor Dalling.

Camp before St. John's Castle,
April 22d., 1780.

Sir:

On the 28th. ulto., just as I left the harbour of St. John's, I received Letters from his Excellency Gen. Dalling, dated the 17th. of said month, wherein he informs me that you were to sail in three weeks or less with three hundred Regulars and about the same number of Volunteers, and on the supposition that I was in possession of this Castle and the Lake, if not the Town of Granada, desires I should order down all the Crafts to St. John's Harbour for your accommodation.

I arrived here the 11th. instant, and on reconnoitring the Castle found it a place of greater strength than it was supposed, and I thought it most advisable to invest it before I should bring up the Artillery. The same night I detached a Captain and 50 Men to take Post on the River, above the Castle, to prevent succours being thrown in from the Country; and a Subaltern with 30 Men to take possession of a rising ground about 300 yards to the Southward of the Castle, which party was augmented next morning to a Captain and 50 Men. The rest of my small Army, that came in the first division, took post in a wood about 500 yards to the Eastward of the Castle. The 12th., the Troops were employed in getting the Artillery from the landing place to the Post on the East side, and at night I ordered them across the Plain in the Front of the Castle to the rising ground to the South, where one of the four Pounders was mounted, which began to play on the Castle the morning of the 13th. The other three were brought to the top of the hill the same morning; but, as the Batteries were not completed, they were of very little use that day. The 14th., the four four-Pounders on two Batteries played upon the Castle with great effect, as they did also the 15th. On the 16th. the Shot were all expended, and from that time they have been closely invested. On the 18th. the advanced party took Post within 40 yards of their Walls, where the Engineer thought it advisable to push a Mine to their Works, which is now advanced about 14 yards; but, as the Miners meet with Rocks, their progress is very slow. Major Macdonald, with the 2d. Division, arrived this day, and has brought the two 12 Pound Carronades; but, I am sorry to say, there were only 40 round Shot originally shipped for them. To supply this deficiency I have ordered 200 nine pound Shot, which I hope will have some effect, though not equal to proper shot. I have also received 53 round Shot for the four Pounders, which is far short of the quantity I expected by this Division; but the Artillery Store

keeper not being arrived in Camp, I have no proper return of what has been shipped.

Under all these difficulties I hope to be Master of the Castle in a few days; but, as I am very short of Provisions, I am obliged to dispatch all the lightest Crafts, Pitpans, &c., that can be manned with Negroes (I cannot depend on the return of the Indians) for a supply. At present therefore it is out of my power to send Crafts; but, as soon as I have intelligence of your arrival, every Craft, Pitpan and Dorey that can be manned shall be sent for your accommodation.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Most obedient and most humble Servant,

Jno. Polson.

To Colonel Stephen Kemble, or the Officer Commanding the Reinforcement expected to arrive from Jamaica at St. John's.

Sir:

I am just favoured with your letter of the 20th. Instant, and I Congratulate you on your safe arrival at St. John's with so large a Reinforcement. I am sorry to inform you that I have not yet been able to make myself Master of the Fort of St. John's, for want of Shot for my Artillery. There have been so many mistakes in shipping things that I cannot account for the Deficiency of Shot. Out of 350 Round shot put into the Crafts of the first Division, we could not find above 200 or 250 at most; and out of 200 put into the Crafts of the 2d. Division, only about 60 were found, so that our 4 pounders are entirely useless. Of the Shot for the 12-pound Carronades, there were but 40; and though I brought up 200 Round shot for 9 Pounders, I find they will be of no use thrown by the Carronades. I have nothing now to depend on but small Arms, and the Troops have got the Flux, which reduces them both as to strength and numbers.

The Fort is now I think completely Invested, and if I am able to support my Posts, I think they cannot hold out many days, as they have no water but what they must take from the River, and I have Posts between them.

The Mine is still going on, but having a hard Rock they make little way.

I sent an Officer with 12 Indians up the River, with directions to go as far as the Lake if Possible, and make what discoveries he could; they are gone five days and not yet returned.

I am this day to Summon the Governor to surrender; I cannot yet tell what the Consequence will be. Capt. Nelson's going off directly puts it out of my Power to be full on any Subject, but I shall write you to-Morrow by his Pinnace, which he leaves for that purpose. I want words to Express the Praise due to Capt. Nelson for the many Services he did the Army in coming here, and the great Assistance he gave me in carrying on the Siege. Hardly a Gun but was laid by him or Lieut. Despard, and I shall miss him and his good men more than double their Number of any others.

The Indians have got the Flux, and many of them died; this, with the short allowance of Provisions we are all at, makes them wish to return home. I have done everything I can to keep them, but Several of them have given me the slip, and last Night the Governor went off with two Crafts. I do not know where it will End. The Name of having them is the only Service they are of at present, for they will give us no help except to fire away our ammunition and Eat our provisions.

I will send down Mr. Jones, the Artillery Store Keeper, in the Pinnace with such Returns as will inform you of what we have, and what will be most wanted.

I hope the Seasons will not set in before the latter end of May or beginning of June, and that if you had

Crafts you might (if you can carry Provisions and Ammunition) Quarter for the wet Season in Granada.

I am with great respect, Dear Sir,
Your most Humble Servant,
Jno. Polson.

Camp before St. John's Castle, 28th. Apr., 1780.
To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

(*From the London Gazette.*)

Extracts of a letter from John Dalling, Esq., Governor of Jamaica, to the Right Honourable Lord George Germain, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, dated at Kingston, Jamaica, June 2d., 1780, and received by the Thynne packet.

I have the honour to congratulate your Lordship on the reduction of the important fort and post on the River St. John, by a detachment of his Majesty's troops under the command of Capt. Polson of the 60th. Regiment. Suffice it to say, for I shall not take up your Lordship's time with an uninteresting tedious detail of trifling matters, that the fort surrendered on the 29th. of April, that there were found in it 1 brass mortar of five and a half inches, 20 pieces of brass ordnance mounted, besides swivels, 10 or 12 iron ditto dismounted, with a proportionable quantity of military stores.

Inclosed are copies of the capitulation, list of prisoners, and of the killed and wounded before the fort.

Extract of a letter from Capt. Polson to Governor Dalling, dated St. John's Fort, April 30th., 1780.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that this castle surrendered to his Majesty's arms yesterday at five o'Clock P. M. The terms of capitulation I now inclose, which I hope will meet with your approbation.

I have also the honour of sending your Excellency,

by Lieut. Thomas Mounsey, the colours of the fort and of the regiment, as well as returns of the cannon and stores taken in it.

When I came to Cape Gracias a Dios, there were not any Indians to be seen; some villains there had taken the pains to persuade them that the English army came to enslave and send them to Jamaica; it was therefore some time before any of them ventured to come in. I took the opportunity of sending some small presents by one of their people, who had ventured down to watch our motions. He being acquainted with Mr. Campbell was undeceived by him, and brought to me, which had the desired effect, as most of the tribes came in very soon after.

Your Excellency's letters of March 17th. I received the 20th. of the same month as I entered the River St. John's. I shall ever retain the most grateful sense of the sentiments you was therein pleased to express for me; and I am sorry that the delays I met at the Cape, and other places between that and the harbour of St. John, from the want of craft, and the backwardness of the Indians in coming out, prevented my operations keeping pace with your Excellency's expectations. I however hope you will do me the justice to believe that no time was lost that could possibly have been saved, situated as I was. It was the 3d. of March before any Black River crafts arrived, and those were the only ones then provided. It is true the Indian Governor promised me a great many; but when I came to his country there was not one ready, and we got them at last with a great deal of difficulty. The Superintendent was entirely deceived by the Indians in the number of the craft and men, and still more so in point of time.

Capt. Nelson, then of the Hinchinbroke, came up with thirty-four seamen, one serjeant, and twelve marines. I want words to express the obligations I owe that gentleman; he was the first on every service, whether by day or by night; there was scarcely a gun

fired but was pointed by him or Lieut. Despard, chief engineer, who has exerted himself on every occasion. I am persuaded if our shot had held out we should have had the fort a week sooner. As Capt. Nelson goes to Jamaica, he can inform you of every delay and point of service as well as I could, for he knows my very thoughts.

The bearer, Lieut. Mounsey, can inform your Excellency of many things that may escape my memory; he is a very good officer, and commanded the party I sent to reconnoitre the Look-out, and began the attack of it in concert with Capt. Despard and Capt. Nelson, who with his seamen volunteered that duty.

(Translation.)

Answer of Col. John Polson, Commander in Chief of his Britannic Majesty's forces before Fort St. Juan, to the proposals of capitulation made by Don Juan de Ayssa, Governor thereof for his Catholic Majesty, April 29th., 1780.

Article I. The garrison shall be allowed the use of their batteaux to transport themselves where they shall think proper, and the term of four days for the entire evacuation of the fort.

Answer. The garrison of Fort St. Juan shall surrender prisoners of war, and shall be conducted to some port (in my option) of North America, subject to the Crown of Spain, and shall be furnished with vessels and provisions necessary to the voyage, provided they engage their parole of honour not to bear arms against his Britannic Majesty until an exchange of prisoners shall have taken place conformably to such cartel as is or may be established between the two nations.

Article II. The garrison shall march out with colours flying; each man with a ball in his mouth, lighted matches, drums beating; each soldier shall have twenty rounds, musket, and side arms, together with

two pieces of cannon (three pounders) with twenty rounds to each.

Answer. The British forces must be put in possession of the principal gate of the fort between the hours of four and five in the afternoon, at which sentinels shall be kept to prevent the Indians from committing any act contrary to the rules of war or laws of humanity; and in favour of the gallant defence which the Commandant has made, the garrison shall be allowed to march out with colours flying, drums beating, lighted matches, musket, and side arms, with two rounds to each man, to the foot of the glacis, opposite to the south front of the castle, where they shall pile up their arms and accoutrements, the officers keeping their swords. Afterwards they shall return to the castle.

Article III. Every officer and soldier, on evacuating the castle, shall be allowed to keep their effects, baggage, money, and whatever else may actually belong to them.

Answer. The officers and soldiers shall be allowed to keep their baggage, and whatever money may actually belong to them; but every slave must be detained for the use of his Britannic Majesty.

Article IV. The prisoners made at the advanced post on the island of Bentole shall be restored.

Answer. In case the garrison shall accept the terms of capitulation offered, the prisoners made at the advanced post on the island of Bentole shall be included in it, provided, however, that all slaves shall appertain of right to the King my master.

Article V. The garrison shall be allowed ten days for the evacuation of the fort, during which time they shall not be molested by any person whatsoever.

Answer. The garrison shall not be molested by any person whatsoever, until their arrival at the place appointed.

Article VI. The garrison shall be allowed the use of their own provisions.

Answer. No other answer is necessary to this article than that already given to the first.

Article VII. The garrison shall be allowed to carry with them all such ornaments and effects as are necessary to their religion and mode of worship.

Answer. Granted in the fullest sense.

Article VIII. The British forces shall treat the garrison with humanity and politeness, duties incumbent on all nations.

Answer. It is the characteristic of Britons to treat their prisoners with humanity and politeness, and I pledge my word to do my utmost to keep the Mosquitoes within the bounds of moderation.

Article IX. Should any doubts arise in the preceding articles, they shall be explained in favour of the garrison.

Answer. As I do not mean to cavil, an answer to this article would be useless. Immediately on being put in possession of the interior of the fort, and its dependencies, I will appoint an officer, who shall take charge of the military chest, and likewise name Commissaries to take account of all warlike stores and provisions, artillery, slaves, and in general of everything belonging to his Catholic Majesty.

(Signed) John Polson,
Colonel and Commander in Chief.

Head Quarters, camp before St. Juan, April 29, 1780.

Juan de Ayssa,
Commander of the Castle of St. Juan.

List of prisoners taken in the Castle of St. John's, April 29, 1780:

1 Captain and Governor, 1 Lieutenant, 2 Sub-Lieutenants, 1 Captain of Engineers, 1 Chaplain, 1 Surgeon, 3 Serjeants, 3 Drummers, 9 Corporals, 17 Soldiers of Artillery, 1 Cadet, 31 Spanish Soldiers, 61 Soldiers of Colour, 17 Batteaux Men, 6 Slaves, Women and Children, 3 Malefactors, 17 Women, 13 Children,

1 Master Carpenter, 1 Carpenter, 1 Blacksmith, 2 Masons, 25 Wood cutters, 1 Corporal of ditto, 2 Officers and Chaplain's servants, 14 taken at the advanced post. (Signed) Juan de Ayssa,
Governor.

Return of the killed and wounded at the taking of Look-out Island and the castle of St. John's, April 30, 1780:

60th. Regiment. 1 rank and file killed; 1 Serjeant wounded.

79th. Regiment. 2 rank and file killed; 3 rank and file wounded.

Loyal Irish Corps. 5 rank and file killed.

Jamaica Volunteers. 1 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file wounded.

(Signed) John Polson,
Colonel Commanding at the Castle of St. John's.
—*Almon's Remembrancer, X. 85.*

Castle of St. John's, 1st. May, 1780.

Sir:

I did myself the honour of writing you the 28th. ulto. by Capt. Nelson. I have now the pleasure to inform you that the Castle of St. John's Surrendered to His Majesty's Arms the 29th. April; the Garrison to be Prisoners of War, and to be sent on ships Provided and Provisioned by the King of England to any Port belonging to the King of Spain in North America that I think Proper. I think they should be sent to New Orleans, but I have not told them yet to what Port I intend to send them, and I now leave the Choice to you to send them there or to any other you please. I fear Carthagena or Porto Bello is too near; they are not to Serve against the King of Great Britain until they are Exchanged. I send you a rough Copy of the Capitulation; it's in French. Agreeable to Gen. Dalling's letter to me I send an Officer, Viz.: Lieut. Mounsey, of the 79th. Regiment, to Jamaica with

the Colours of the Fort, as also the Regimental Colours with the Copy of the Capitulation and many other Papers. I hope you will not take it amiss that I take this step, as it's Acting in Compliance with the Orders I received; And if the Man of War is sailed which I understood was going to Jamaica, I beg the favour of you to appoint a Vessel to Carry Mr. Mounsey there.

You will please give the Necessary Orders for Transporting the Garrison where you think proper, According to the Capitulation. I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you here in a few days, and that you will bring plenty of Provisions.

I have Ordered Returns of the Stores, &c., found in the Fort to be made out, which I will inclose you, Also Returns made out yesterday of the Troops here, and the Killed and Wounded; But I am sorry to say there are double the Number of Officers and Men sick this day as were yesterday.

Mr. Jones carries also Returns of the Artillery and Stores now here, by which you will judge what may be Necessary to bring up.

Camp Equipage will be wanted for any Troops you bring. I am almost out of Provisions, and have been on half Allowance for a long time.

Bring for yourself all the Comforts of Life; there are few here. The Fort is small and not fit for a Garrison above fifty Men. I acquainted you I had sent a Party to look for the Lake. Lieut. McLean Returned the 28th. ulto. with 2 Crafts and twenty-three Prisoners, taken at the Mouth of the Lake, with some Jerked Beef, Sugar, Bread, and Chocolate for this Garrison. The Indians who were with him divided the whole, except the Prisoners. I always told them they should have anything they took to themselves.

I hope to send the Prisoners to you to-Morrow. I purpose sending about thirty Soldiers with Lieut. Mounsey, and the Seamen and Marines which Capt. Nelson left with me, which I hope will be a sufficient Guard for them.

In the Crafts taken on the Lake, which Mr. McLean says is about forty Miles from here, and water enough, There were Several letters, and some from the Gentleman that is President of Guatemala, Don Marias di Galvez, and who left this place but a few days before we arrived, wherein he acknowledges the Receipt of two letters from him (the Governor) since the Enemy appeared at the Advance Post, and telling him in his letter of 14th. April, from Granada, that he had ordered the Militia to be Raised, and he would send them to the mouth of the Lake to prevent the Enemy taking Possession of it; and that the Militia of Granada had offered themselves to come with him by Land to make a Diversion, and he hoped to save the Fort and Extirpate the Enemy. I am sorry that I have not the Conveniency or time that I should to write you as fully as I could wish, But I hope you will excuse me at this time.

I shall be obliged to you when you write Gen. Dalling, to beg of him to send back Lieut. Mounsey, the bearer, who wishes much to return here, And he is a very good officer of his Standing.

The Samboes and the few Indians that are here are consulting whether they shall go home to-Morrow, or whether some of them will not stay. The Cause of their disgust is, That they say Gen. Dalling promised them every Negro or Indian they should take, whether free or Slave. If so, they expect some Indians and Spanish Negroes they took on the Lake. I do not think it reasonable to give up free people, and the dispute is referred to you as the Superior Officer. They acknowledge they have nothing farther to say against me.

2d. May. I am just now favoured with your letter of the 26th. ulto., and thank you for the Supply of Provisions sent. Capt. Thomson is Sick, and I do not yet know how much is arrived.

I am sorry to inform you that within three days one half of the Troops are laid up with Sickness and Flux.

There is but one Captain of the Regulars now fit for Duty, and not one Regular Soldier on duty; Therefore, though I see the Necessity of getting Possession of the Entrance of the Lake, I find it impossible to move until More Troops and Provisions arrive.

I thought to have got the Prisoners sent down today, but I find it impossible, the Indians having quitted me last Night to about twenty, and having no men to remove my Baggage and Stores.

I hope you will soon Arrive here or Enable me to proceed to the Lake; there is no time to lose, and I could not send down the Crafts sooner for want of hands, and the daily Expectations of having the prisoners to send down.

I am with Esteem and respect, Sir,

Your most Humble Servant,

Jno. Polson.

To Gen. Kemble.

(Enclosure.)

Yesterday I answered your first letter of the 9th. Instant, which informed me that the day before some Canoes of an enemy was seen by the advanced party at the Isle of Bartolio; and I now answer your second Letter, in which you inform me that at 11 o'Clock in the morning the Soldier Severino had arrived and given you an account that four Crafts had attacked the Isle of Bartolio, and that after an obstinate resistance the detachment was obliged to give way, and, endeavouring to get on board the Canoes, they found their retreat cut off, and were obliged to throw themselves into the river. This is the whole of the information that Greganio gives, but that he supposes some of the Soldiers were drowned and some were obliged to surrender themselves Prisoners. I am now to inform you that to-day there went from this place to the Castle 60 men, and in the night will also be sent some warlike Stores and provisions; but this I do not answer for, as the wind is now Contrary. I have given the necessary orders that they are to proceed with every

precaution till they discover if the army has Blockaded the Castle, and, if so, to take post at the mouth of the river.

I have also to-day ordered the Companies of the neighbouring militia to proceed down the Lake to the mouth of the river, and they have offered me to march by land to the Castle by way of St. Miguel and cross the head of the rivers Melchora Monillo, Savalos, and Santa Croix to the river Dalma. Should this be accomplished, much advantage will accrue, and will greatly reinforce your fortress, and, I hope, defeat the intentions of your enemies ; in a word, be assured I will leave nothing undone that is possible for me to do to relieve you from the attack of the enemy.

The expedition I formerly mentioned to you which I intended to send to reconnoitre the route by land to the sea, I have ordered not to proceed, and that the troops should be quartered in the neighbourhood of St. Miguel and of Haen, and to hold themselves always in readiness. (Signed) Marias di Galvez.

Granada, 14th. April, 1780.

P. S. Marias di Galvez is the President of Guatemala.

Sir :

I forgot to mention in my Letter of yesterday, that I intend keeping the twenty-three prisoners taken at the Mouth of the Lake till the next opportunity. My reasons are that they are not included in the Capitulation ; and another reason, that I would not choose to let them see the other prisoners, lest they should tell them any News from Granada that might encourage them to make their Escape from the Escort.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient, Humble Servant,

Jno. Polson.

Excuse no wafer at hand.

St. John's Castle, 3d. May, 1780.

To Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Recd. May 14th.

St. John's Castle, 12th. May, 1780.

Sir:

I was favoured last Night with your letter of the 28th. ulto. by Capt. Schroter of the Legion, who arrived here with all the Crafts committed to his care, except three which he left at a Rapid below the look out Island. His people could not get them up, as he tells me. I have sent a party for them this Morning, and Expect them here this night or to-Morrow. As soon as they are unloaded, I shall send all the Crafts that are here down to you Except some very large ones that was with much difficulty got over the falls, and are besides very Leakie, And a few Clumsy Spanish Crafts that would not work up again, but may be useful on the Lake. You will please Observe that it was not in my power to send you the Crafts before I sent the Prisoners. I did not know of your Arrival until the 28th. ulto., and as the place Surrendered the day following I could not send the Crafts without sending them, which I had it not in my power to do until the 3d. Inst.; Nor could I man them then if it had not been for Capt. Nelson's Seamen.

Your favours of the 21st. ulto. I received a few days ago by Lieut. Brumley, of the 79th. Regiment, who arrived here with 22 Men of that Corps. About 24 of the Legion arrived at the same time with two Subalterns. Capt. Aldred came up two days before to let me know they were coming; the rest of the Legion has been dropping in since. The whole of them that were sent with Aldred are now arrived, except some that I believe Deserted on the way, and one died. I have put both the Gentlemen in Arrest in your Name. I understand Lieut. Hill is at Capt. Cooke's Post with the rest of the Detachment that set out with Lieut. Brumley. I have sent to the two Gentlemen to give me in writing the reasons of their quitting their Detachment. Lieut. Brumley has sent me his, which I inclose you. Capt. Aldred has not sent his; if he does I will inclose it also. He did not bring so many men from

St. John's as was Ordered, not having room in the Boats for them.

I will send you the 23 Spanish Prisoners taken at the Mouth of the Lake.

You desire I should give you all the Intelligence I can. I would certainly Communicate to you any Intelligence I had, but I have really none that can be any ways useful.

As you are coming up, please Examine the Post Capt. Cooke is at; Also an Island in the Colorado River just Opposite, or a little higher than, where Capt. Cooke is. I think you should Establish a Post there to prevent the Enemy coming up the Coloradoes, and by fortifying either of these Islands cut off our Communication with the Harbour of St. John's.

I am sorry to inform you that the Troops here, both Officers and Soldiers, are in a miserable situation with fevers and fluxes. Of all the Regulars there are only two Subalterns for duty, and I do not think there are fifty Regular Soldiers fit for any kind of duty; the Jamaica Volunteers are not quite so sickly, but many of them are laid up. I have not been out for Eight days ago; I had a fever of which, thank God, I have now got the better, and I take Bark by Ounces. Nothing can be done until you come up with fresh Troops to put us in Spirits.

We have no Colours for the Fort. I was obliged to detain Capt. Nelson's Jack, which is all we have. It should be made good to the Ship. But it's not fit for a Fort.

I Return you my thanks for sending me the two Howitzers; they certainly would have been very useful. The Travelling Carriages were put in the Ulysses's long Boat, and, I am told, landed out of her on the Banks of the River and left there with some of the live shells. As to the 24 Pounders, I do not know whether they may be wanted here, but there are so many things more necessary at present, such as Rum, of which I am quite Scarce, and Provisions, of which I have given

the Men this day a lb. of Beef and a lb. of Flour and 1 Gill of Rum each. I must request that you will order Medicines and Nourishment to be sent for the Hospital. We are entirely out of everything. I inclose you Dr. Dancer's list. I gave an Order when Mr. Shaw and Mr. Patterson went down to have Several things sent up, but there was nothing sent but a little Rice and some tonic. The Officers here are out of every kind of Nourishment, as I prevented their taking any thing with them but what was absolutely necessary for present use. Some have Stores below and others have none. I wish some assistance could be given to a Sutler to come up, as I understand you brought one from Jamaica.

I am much at a loss here for the want of a Spanish Interpreter. Lieut. Haldimand is very ill and but little chance of his ever being better. There is not one Man here can read a Spanish Letter wrote in the characters they write in. There are two or three people that can speak a little Spanish.

Please observe when you come to where the Coloradoes and St. John's Separates or rather joins above there is a small Island there where the Spaniards had a fort formerly. The Large Branch that Strikes off to the left hand, and to which some give the Name of Costa Rica River, and some say it comes from Cartago Mountains, Whether a Post should not be established there lest the Enemy might come down that Branch and Cut off our Communication. I must request (if it can be done without much interruption to the Service) that I may have room given me, as soon as it may be spared, for a Quarter Cask of Madeira and a Cask of Rum for my use. I have not a drop of either now except a few bottles of Wine and Bark mixed; the Cask of Rum I brought for my own use was Issued to the Troops by mistake. My Rum and Wine is in the Care of Capt. Thomson of the Horatio.

13th. May, 1780. As I do not know when there will be vessels going for Jamaica, I take the liberty of

enclosing you Duplicates of my letters to Gen. Dalling, which I beg the favour of you to give Orders that they may be forwarded by the Next Opportunity after the departure of the Originals sent by Lieut. Mounsey. Also a few Private letters to be sent.

This being the first day I have been able to go abroad I have been to see and examine the Prisoners taken at the mouth of the Lake. I find Eight of them to be Indians, and most of them of a Village on the Lake which, by my instructions, I am ordered to endeavour to cultivate their friendship; It's Called Ometepe. Two of them are Pilots Employed by the King of Spain from Granada here and Back; I will therefore keep these Indians here. I told them the King of England did not send his Army to make War on the poor Indians, but to redeem them from the Slavery of the Spaniards; that if they would remain quiet they should not be disturbed in their persons or property, and be protected by the Arms of England and live free from tribute. This seems to give them Spirits, but one of the Pilots seemed to agree to serve us with a good deal of Reluctance. He is one of the Indians of Ometepe Island, but lives at Granada, having a wife there. I Also Examined a Serjeant belonging to Mr. Juan de Ayssa's Company. He confesses they have no Regulars, but that they Expect many men from Leon and Guatemala. I enclosed you the questions I asked to which I received any Satisfactory answers. As to the Seasons, they seem to differ from most Accounts. They say there is not so much rain up the Country as I imagined, that in June, July, August, and September there may be sometimes two or three days' continual Rain, and then hold up for a Month. But October Rains Continually.

I saw a very old man among the Prisoners, and sent for him just now, and Asked him the Questions you see put After his Name, Viz.: Juan Paulino. I confess his Story is not agreeable about the Seasons.

As I have no Spanish Interpreter, I send you all the

Spanish papers and letters taken in the Crafts; if you can get them read, you can give the Officers such as are of a private Nature. The letter from the President I inclose herewith, also another for Monsr. De Ayssa. Capt. Aldred has not yet deigned to Account to me for his Conduct; I therefore continue him in his Arrest. I have released Lieut. Bromley, Who though in a fault Acknowledges it, and gives the best reason he can. But Capt. Aldred does not know what men he took with him, nor what is become of them; if he does, he will not Account for them.

I expect to send you to-Morrow morning thirteen Crafts and three Pitpans, which are all fit to be sent. Capt. Schroeter goes with a Detachment of the Legion, and Lieut. Foxly of the Mosquito Volunteers with 20 of his men, which are all that is now fit for duty of them.

I am with great respect and Esteem, Dear Sir,
Your most Humble Servant,
Jno. Polson.

To Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received May 14th. from Capt. Schroeter, inclosing some Questions asked an Indian Pilot, taken in the Spanish Craft coming down the River to Fort St. Juan.

(Enclosure.)

Questions put to two Indians taken in Spanish Crafts on the Lake Nicaragua the 27th. April, 1780:

To Antonio Renomdes, an Indian.

Q. Are you King's Pilot from Granada here and back? A. Yes.

Q. Do you pay tribute to the King? A. I pay 5 Pieces of Eight.

Q. What do you get for Pilotage from and to Granada? A. Five ps of Eight each time.

Q. Is there not an Island on the Lake entirely Inhabited by Indians? A. Yes.

Q. How many Indians live on that Island? A. The other Pilot has an Account of them all.

Q. How far is the Island from the River's Mouth? A. If you was to go from the Mouth of the River Early, you would get to the Island about this time. (Note. It's now about 11 o'Clock.)

Q. Is there any Island before we come to the Indian Island? A. None nearer the mouth of the River.

Q. Will you undertake to Pilot the English to Granada? A. I will.

Q. How many Pilots are of you? A. Two.

Q. How many of you Indians are among the Prisoners? A. Eight that were taken with me.

Q. If you will inform me who are Slaves among the Prisoners, I will reward you. A. There are none; the Slaves are all at Granada.

Q. How many days with Spanish Crafts do you take from here to Granada? A. Seven days—two to the Lake and five Days a Cross.

Q. Do you coast it in the Lake or go across through it? A. We pass from Island to Island and Sleep Every night.

To Baltezar Condego, an Indian.

Q. Are you Employed as King's Pilot from and to Granada? A. Yes.

Q. Are you tributary to Spain? A. Yes.

Q. What do you pay per Annum? A. Three ps of Eight; Viz., 2 for myself and 1 for my wife. Children of 18 Years old Pay as Men and Women.

Q. You will Stay and Pilot the Army to Granada? A. Yes. But it seemed to be with reluctance.

Q. Is there not an Island on the Lake Inhabited by Indians? A. Yes; I am one of them, and it's called Ometepe.

Q. How many Indians live on that Island? A. About a thousand—Men, Women, and Children.

Q. Is there any Spaniards on it? A. None but a Priest.

Q. Will you agree to get the Indians to remain Neutral, and I will give you a Protection, that no Injury is done to any person or their Effects, but will pay for what you can spare? A. I think the Indians would agree to that, as they are very poor, and paying tribute Yearly without knowing for what.

Q. How are the Inhabitants of the Island Maintained? A. They rear Cattle, Corn or Maize, Plantains and Stock.

Q. What Number of Cattle may be on the Island? A. Many thousand, but can't say how many.

Q. How large is the Island? A. I cannot tell. There are two Towns on it, One of Indians and the Other Mestizes.

Q. Are the Towns near the End of the Island next the River's Mouth? A. They are not; the Mestizes are on the Water side and near the Middle of the Island on the North side, the Indian Town inland.

Q. Is there any Cattle Pens on the Main near the Mouth of the Lake? A. None.

Q. What time does the Heavy Rains set in? A. In October.

Q. Have you much Rain in June, July, August, and September? A. Not much. It rains sometimes for two or three days, and then holds up for a Month.

Q. Were you not come from Granada when you was taken? A. Yes.

Q. Have they many Soldiers at Granada? A. No; they must get them from Leon.

Q. Have they many Soldiers at Leon? A. They have no Regulars, but Obliged to Muster Mulattoes and Samboes from different parts.

Q. How far from Granada to Leon? A. Seven Leagues.

Q. Is Granada a very large Town? A. Not very large; a good Middling Town.

Q. How many houses have you on your Island, and what kind? A. They are thatched and small, but cannot say how many.

Q. When you left Granada was there any Troops ordered here? A. None that I know.

Q. Is there any Vessels on the Lake? A. Yes; there are two Chatts with some Swivels.

Q. Is there any Fortification at Granada? A. None; they have a few Guns lying on the Beach, on Carriages.

Q. How near is Granada to the Lake side? A. It's on the Lake side.

To Juan Paulino, an old Spanish Soldier.

Q. What age are you? A. Seventy Years old.

Q. How long have you lived at this Castle? A. Fifty Years, Except a few Months at Granada for my health.

Q. What Weather have you here in May? A. Small Rains here at Granada.

Q. What Weather have you in June, July, August, September, and October? A. Heavy Rains and floods both here and at Granada.

Q. When have you the best Weather? A. In November, December, January, February, March, April, and May.

Jno. Polson.

13th. May, 1780.

Sir:

After finishing and putting up my letters Capt. Schroeter has called on me with the best Account he can get of the Detachment sent from St. John's Harbour under the Command of Capt. Aldred, viz.: 2 Captains, 1 Lieutenant, 3 Ensigns, and 66 Non-Commissioned officers and Privates, of which last 3 Died and 4 were sent back Sick to St. John's Harbour, so that 59 Non-Commissioned officers and Privates are now here of his party.

I am Sorry to tell you the Soldiers here are quite Naked, without Shirts, Trousers, or Shoes. If there are any of these Articles to be sold at St. John's, I wish

the Seller would bring them here. Some plan must be fell on or the Men will be ruined.

I am, Dear Sir,
Your most Humble Servant,
Jno. Polson.

To Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Recd. May 13th. from Capt. Schroeter, Legion.

St. John's Castle, 14th. May, 1780.

Sir :

4 o'Clock in the morning.

It just now Occurred to me that I forgot to report to you the Death of Capt. Hart, of the Loyal Irish Corps, a truly honest, worthy man. He was the only Captain I had for duty on the 2d. Inst. He was attacked by a fever the morning of the 3d. and died in about Six days after.

Serjeant Murray, of the 79th. Regiment, who allowed his Guard to be asleep and Surprised the 26th. ulto., and one of the Guard who threw away his arms when the Guard was fired upon, are both in confinement, and I did and still do intend to have them tried for their lives.

You will see by the Return of the 30th. ulto. that four Men of our Battalion Deserted, and one of the Loyal Irish ; two of ours have already come in, and the man of the Loyal Irish ; the other two of ours are yet in this neighbourhood, and I Expect them in daily. I hope you will Order them all to be tried ; none of them came in while they could live in the woods, nor before the place surrendered.

The Power which Gen. Dalling gave me to hold General Court Martial, I believe I left it in a Small Box of mine that I left in the Cabin of the Hinchinbrooke, on the Top of which is engraved, by old Lieut. Nordburg, "*Lieut. John Polson.*" But as your Arrival takes that Power out of me, it will not be Necessary to send up the Box. Should any change of Measures prevent you or Col. Dalrymple's coming up soon, I

wish you would Order a General Court Martial on these people.

It is not in my power to send you Returns, every one being Sick, some Companies have not a non-Commissioned Officer that can come to a Parade.

I am, Dear sir, with great respect,
Your most Humble Servant,
Jno. Polson.

N. B. It will be Necessary to Employ an Engineer here to fortify the high grounds, and you will require another always with the Army that Advances, for our Officers have little Experience of Service, and it will become necessary to throw up works in many places as a defence against Numbers, and Security for Provision and Stores.

To Gen. Kemble. J. P.

Endorsed. 14th. May, 4 o'Clock in the morning. Rec'd about 1 at noon.

Kingston, 18th. May, 1780.

Sir:

The immense hurry of business, in which his Excellency is now involved, putting it absolutely out of his power to answer your letter of the 30th. of April, I have it in command from him to inform you, that, by the last dispatches brought by the Thynne Packet, the Troops allotted for the Service on the Lake of Nicaragua are hourly to be expected, and that immediately on their arrival his Excellency intends proceeding with them to St. John's Harbour.

By the Grantham Packet just arrived in 35 days we are informed that the troops were put back by hard weather; therefore their arrival is not to be expected so soon.

Yesterday arrived the Victor with your dispatches. His Excellency hopes ere now that the Fort of St. John has surrendered, and that everything will be in train for him to push forward with rapidity. Col.

Polson's letter to you gives him some uneasiness; however, as sickness is generally the consequence of the first Military exertions in these Climes, he is the less alarmed, particularly as the Troops have been well provided with all necessary Medicines and Medical Gentlemen, and as he is confident every attention has been paid to them by the Commanding Officer.

His Excellency dispatches this Vessel with the sole view of getting intelligence. She has orders to remain but 24 hours at St. John's, and to return immediately. Whatever kind of information you can afford, either as to the route his Excellency is to pursue on his arrival at St. John's, what difficulties to be avoided, or anything else that may prove of any consequence, his Excellency expects you will immediately transmit to him.

In a few days another Vessel, of 20 Guns, goes down to St. John's with everything that can be obtained of those things you have mentioned in your letter.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Very humble and Obedient Servant,

Edward Barry, Secretary.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received the 12th. June. Answered.

Kingston, May 21st., 1780.

Sir:

I am ordered by his Excellency the General to Inform you that the Bearer hereof, Capt McNaughton of the Schooner Kingston, is dispatched with a view of getting intelligence relative to the Operations at the fort of St. John's, should you have had any Authentic accounts of the Surrender of the fort, and that a Vessel has already been dispatched to give the General the necessary intelligence, then you are to keep the Vessel to bring up further Information; Should you not have Received full accounts of its Surrender, then you are to send up to Brig.-Gen. Kemble if at St. John's, or to Col. Polson should he be in Com-

mand, to know the Situation of Affairs, which when once acquired, you are to dispatch this Vessel, as she is intended to be an established Packet between Jamaica and St. John's.

I Have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very Humble and Obedient Servant,

Edward Barry, Secretary.

P. S. You are requested to send a Copy of this Letter to the Commanding Officer at St. John's.

To the Commanding Officer at the Harbour of St. John's.

Endorsed. Received the 12th. June. Answered.

General Return of the Troops under Command of Brig.-Gen. Kemble, Camp near St. John's Castle, May 22d., 1780.

Regulars. Commissioned Officers: 1 Brigadier-General, 5 Captains, 9 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 2 acting Ensigns. Staff: 1 Acting Adjutant-General, 1 Chief Engineer, 1 Quarter Master General, 1 deputy ditto, 2 Mates, 17 Serjeants (6 for duty, 7 sick, 1 prisoner, 3 on command), 8 drummers (4 for duty, 2 sick, 2 on command), 375 Rank and File (99 fit for duty, 124 sick in hospital, 63 sick in camp, 6 prisoners, 68 on command, 15 convalescent).

Artillery. 1 Lieutenant Fire worker, 2 Conductors, 1 Bombardier.

Jamaica Volunteers. 1 Major, 1 Lieutenant, 15 Serjeants (1 fit for duty, 11 Sick, 3 on command), 5 Drummers (3 fit for duty, 1 Sick, 1 on Command), 157 Rank and File (20 fit for duty, 76 sick in camp, 61 on command).

Jamaica Legion. 3 Ensigns, 2 Serjeants (1 sick), 60 Rank and File (23 fit for duty, 17 sick in hospital, 20 sick in Camp).

Officers Sick Present.—60th. Regiment: Lieut. Fahy, Lieut. Haldimand, Lieut. Davis, Acting Ensign Vernon. 79th. Regiment, Light Co.: Capt. Despard,

Lieut. Gascoyne. Detachment: Lieut. Knox, Lieut. Bromley, Ensign Temperley. Royal Irish Corps: Lieut. Leo.

Staff Officers. — 79th Regiment: Capt. Richard Bulkeley, Acting Adjutant-General; Lieut. Despard, Chief Engineer. 60th. Regiment: Capt. Polson, Quarter Master General; Capt. Hallam, Deputy Quarter Master General; Peter Walsh, Surgeon General; Thomas Dancer, Hospital Surgeon; Dr. Gallagher, Hospital Mate; Mate Henderson, on duty at St. John's Harbour.

Absent Officers.—79th. Regiment: Lieut. James Mounsey, on leave; Lieut. Thomas Mounsey, on leave. 60th. Regiment: Lieut. Browne on duty on St. John's Harbour. Loyal Irish Corps: Lieut. Dowlin, on command.

Kingston, May the 22d., 1780.

Sir:

I am ordered by his Excellency the General to inform you that in the Schooner Kingston an Ensign and 25 Men of the New raised Corps of Royal Batteaux Men go down with the Artillery men and Officer mentioned in my Last.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Very humble and Obedient Servant,

Edward Barry, Secretary.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 12th. June. Answered.

Kingston, Jamaica, 22d. May, 1780.

Sir:

Mr. Ross has forwarded a list of the Guns, ammunition, and military Stores on board the Venus and Monarch Transports purchased for Government use; of course they are entirely at your disposal, Adverting to the necessity of leaving a small proportion for their Security on their Return to Jamaica, which

quantity you will report to the Agent General here, that he may take possession of them for His Majesty.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient and most humble,

John Dalling.

Endorsed. Received 12th. June. Answered.

Jamaica, May the 27th., 1780.

Your dispatches of the 4th., 5th., 7th., and 8th. of May have all come to hand. On the reduction of the important Fort and post on the River St. John's, I most sincerely congratulate you; it must necessarily lead to other objects with a facility that must even surprise ourselves. Polson's conduct has been most praiseworthy in every point of view; his merit will receive that support it is entitled to, and I trust will not only be acknowledged but recompensed by our gracious Sovereign. It is wonderful he met with so few obstacles in his passage up the Bugbear river St. John's. Difficulties in unexplored countries are ever to be expected, but that the want of craft should be the only one amazes me. I acknowledge its magnitude, but before this time, I flattered myself, Collins has joined you with some. I am now forwarding a number, and more will soon succeed, and, had not the fleet put back by contrary winds, you would have had plenty of all kinds long before this time from England; in short, rest assured of my activity and determination to supply all your wants; despond not, for I will answer in a small space of time that the whole river shall be covered with craft from the river's mouth to the very Lake. The Villainy of the people on the Shore, and the defection of the Indians could not have been foreseen; the latter, however, do not for that become our Enemies.

Batteaux men, all Seamen, are embarked to the number of 160, with a small detachment of regulars, artificers, labourers, and seafaring Negroes. Enclosed are some Ideas for your farther security in case they hould be adapted to your Situation and circumstances.

The same rank which his Majesty has been pleased to grant to the Provincial troops serving with his regular forces is to take place in the body under your command, which you will put in orders. I would have you notify privately my determination not to give in future any rank above that of a Captain to the Provincial officers; in general, you will keep them as separately as possible. If there is a possibility of procuring any fresh provisions, you will take the Steps the most likely to acquire them. By information, you may probably get at the knowledge whether they are to be had within reach or not; Suppose an herald to be sent to demand a Supply, not as absolutely wanting them, but as a Variety for the army, threatening devastation if refused, or if injury done to the Messenger; in Short, every means must be hit on to Supply the army in this most necessary article.

I need not point out to you the necessity of getting up every kind of provision in your power, and in as great a quantity as you can. St. John's must now be a grand depot, both of those and all military stores; but in the exertions for forwarding such matters, the latter are always to give way to the former. We may, indeed, when we come to explore the cultivated parts before us, expect to find some provisions, but the greater likelihood that the Enemy will secrete as much as they can from our View; therefore prudence directs us to expect only from the depot in our rear, until we Shall have been able to penetrate into the Interior part of the country; then, I dare say, we shall find it sufficient to our wants. Keep firm our first hold, and you will soon see a body of troops that their Donships will never be able to look at without blinking.

I wish you to obtain as much knowledge as you can of the River Matina to the Southward of you. The Village of that name is about Six miles from its mouth, and the City of Cartago about 20 miles from thence, which is reported to be defenceless; the Country about, and from Matina, good, tolerably inhabited, and abound-

ing with cattle. As I have observed before, there is said to be a military road from the Lake to the City of four or five days' Journey; whether these things are so or not I cannot positively determine, but the inquiry may be very well worth the while. The Spaniards are also supposed to throw in supplies of whatever may be wanted for the Lake or the Fort of St. John by the Matina. I am much inclined to push a Corps by the above Village, particularly could you but co-operate from above. Cartago would be a fine post, and, if there is such a road communicating with the Lake, supplies of Cattle, &c., might easily be forwarded to our people in and about St. John's. I much long for further information on this head, for it is probable that such an attack may take place on the arrival of the troops from Europe. By the enclosed letter you will see the devastation committed by the Spaniards at Black River; it's contrary to one's nature, but with such Savages retaliation is absolutely necessary, for nothing else will work upon such people's minds, and forbearance would be but productive of farther inhumanity. A good number of people being now assembled at Rattan, 'tis probable that some part of them may, with their Slaves, choose to be joined to a body I intend for the above attack, as I shall hold out particular advantages to them, and assure them of a junction with a regular force at a rendezvous which shall be mentioned. I know not what to say to you as to the Indians; those with you must be cherished and not obliged to conform to our strict military Ideas. In General, they must be allowed to walk in their own path, and every means must be made use of to keep a body of them with you, and they must be assured that they will soon receive everything their hearts can wish for.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Enclosed I send you a copy of my answer to a letter

received by Major Laurie, some time ago, from the Governor of Comayagua ; by the contents you will readily perceive to what a degree of Savage devastation the Enemy mean to carry on this War, if they be not soon impeded in their Villainous intentions. J. D.

Endorsed. Received 6th. July. Answered, Enclosing further Instructions of 20th. May. First Copy received June 12.

(Enclosure.)

Jamaica, May the 29th., 1780.

Sir :

That the poor and defenceless Settlement of ours on Black River should fall to the Spanish arms, is not at all to be wondered at ; but that the Spanish Commander should wreak his vengeance, Don Quixote Like, on houses and sugar Mills, is not only astonishing but contrary to Justice, and derogatory to the arms of *Old Spain*. However, Sir, with all respect to you and to the European Spanish nation, be assured that for every house you burn, a Village shall submit to our flame ; for every Village, a Town ; and for every Town, if you have sufficient, a City. The ridiculous figure you are pleased to say that my nation cut the last year in Europe, in your letter to his Majesty's superintendent of the Shore, my Master's dominion from the gift of the proprietors, may be believed by the wretched unenlightened people on the Main ; but I flatter myself, and verily believe, your Nation will every whit be as conspicuous this war as they manifested themselves on entering into the contest at the latter end of the last.

I am, &c., (Signed) John Dalling.

To His Excellency the Governor of the Province of Honduras, at Comayagua.

(Enclosure.)

Jamaica, 20th. May, 1780.

Further Instructions for Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

On supposition that the Fort is taken, you are in-

structed to provide the most comfortable Barracks for the Troops, to get up the Stores, ammunition, &c., to explore the Lake ; and the artificers are to be set to work, as fast as possible, to build respectable vessels.

The Fort once taken and the command of the Lake ascertained, I shall consider as great and sufficient matters. As a multiplicity of all kinds of articles are coming from home in the fleet for the use of the Indians, they are to be informed thereof, and their minds to be conciliated by informing them that in the interim, whatever things can be found here suitable for them shall be immediately dispatched.

Batteaux, flat-bottom boats, gunboats, &c., are coming from England.

Should the Fort not be taken, then you are to take post on the strongest ground, which must be well redoubted and covered, taking care to get up Provisions and Stores, to impede succours being thrown into the Fort, and, if possible, to ascertain the command of the Lake, if for no other reason than to obtain fresh provisions from its borders ; perhaps it would not be amiss, if circumstances would admit, to occupy some Village as a Post on its banks.

An officer and 4 Artillery men are sent in the express boat. I hope attention has been paid to send up the Gunner and 4 Mattrosses at the time you sent up the Howitzers. About 150 Batteaux men, with a Subaltern and a Detachment of Regulars, will proceed in the Ship which will sail in eight days with every matter made mention of as wanting, in your letter ; in her also will sail Major Jenkins for Rattan, and a Surgeon and Mate for your Hospital, if to be got. Medicines are on board the express boat, and more shall be sent in the Ship. Lame Regulars, I imagine, will do for Rattan as well as the best, unless you should choose to send some of the irregular Troops.

I hope to be able to sail from hence in a short time, and I flatter myself that most of the difficulties are now surmounted, and that the first delays will not be pro-

ductive of too serious consequences. You may be assured of my rectifying, as far as possible, what may be in my power, and replacing all matters that may have, through carelessness, or inattention, been either wasted or lost. Such accidents being of course to be expected from not having regular bred people to fill the different Departments on the first setting out.

A road may be easily cut, as I am informed, between the Harbour of St. John's and the Fort, the ground being firm and not encumbered with underwood. I will send the Surveyor-General for that purpose with the necessary Slaves ; you will give him all the assistance in your power.

I would have Major Dalrymple proceed, if possible, in the Rattan Ship, or some other way, to the Shore, and if necessary to the Bay, in order to collect Volunteers of all kinds for his Legion, as well as Slaves for various uses, being more fit for this kind of Service than any other person. I make no doubt of his readiness to set out immediately.

I would advise that scouts be constantly kept out, under good officers, to learn the motions of the Enemy and to avoid surprises ; To get at every possible knowledge of the Country, not neglecting the Roads communicating with Cartago and the intermediate Country.

No Regular Troops are to be employed in labour but when the necessity is very pressing.

I expect the Engineers are taking surveys or sketches of the adjacent Country, according to your former instructions, and that they may be transmitted to me by every good opportunity.

Various Craft are to be collected, and all impressed in case of necessity, from the neighbouring Islands and Continent, for which purpose a Vessel or Vessels must be dispatched. I will assiduously set about forwarding as many as I possibly can, and the Ship which, as before mentioned, will sail in a few days will carry some, also ammunition, and what Provisions can be collected. Red wine is likewise ordered for the Troops. Lieut.-Col.

Sir Alexander Leith will embark in her ; he will regulate everything relative to the Artillery, and will act in that department. It would not be amiss to join a certain proportion of men for that Service.

John Dalling.

Kingston, 3d. June, 1780.

Sir :

By letters lately received from Rattan I am informed that, in consequence of the inroad of the Spaniards at St. George's Key and the Mosquito Shore, that Island begins to assume a degree of consequence from the number of settlers that have taken refuge in it. If, therefore, a force could be selected among those settlers, aided by a tolerable military one of regulars, I think a seasonable diversion might be effected by the Bay of Honduras, so as to call off the attention of the Spaniards from St. John's, and give them cause of suspicion for Guatemala, Omoa, St. Thomas, and any part of the Gulf of Dulce ; the taking of any one of which by surprise would affect the Spaniards in the most tender point. To undertake such a piece of service, an active, spirited officer must be pitched on. I know of no one more fitting than Major Dalrymple ; his local knowledge of that Country, and the vicinities, makes my choice the more eligible. · Should my ideas on this head coincide with yours, it will afford me great satisfaction ; should, however, there exist any reasons, at this distance unknown to me, which would make such a choice ineligible—and such there undoubtedly may—I leave the whole to your determination. It strikes me strongly that the Spaniard may be very much annoyed, or at least puzzled, by a spirited attack from Rattan Should Major Dalrymple choose this separate command, I do not think it prudent to spare him any part of the force acting with you ; he may continue in the command of the Legion, but the Adjutant Generalship he must of course part with. To the Officer who shall take upon himself this

separate command, every possible aid will be given, and he may be assured that my expectations will rise no higher than the capability with which he may be furnished.

By this conveyance I am forwarding provisions and ammunition with the Officer appointed Commandant of that Island, and I will take care that nothing shall be wanting for the carrying into execution the above purposes; as necessity may require, farther reinforcements may be depended upon.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 6th. July. Answered.

RETURN OF THE ROOMS IN THE CASTLE OF ST. JOHN'S, 11TH. JUNE, 1780.

No.	Situation.	Feet.		No. of men to be put in each Room.	Remarks.
		Long.	Broad.		
1	N. and next the Chapel	14	14	14	Leaky, and occupied by Lieut. Hill. Ensigns Taaff and Wilcox.
2	N. E. the Chapel.....	32	15	32	Occupied by Loyal Irish Corps.
3	South East.....	28	15	28	Wants flooring; occupied by Lieut. Napier, 2 Conductors, a Quarter Master, and Gunner.
4	Centre of South side.....	14	14	14	Occupied by Lieuts. Leigh and Cook, Ensigns Colburn and Tacert.
5	South west	18	18	16	Loyal Irish Corps.
6	West, cross Room below.....	37	18	36	Spanish Women, Lumber, and Trash.
7	North West.....	23	14		Lavatory.
8	North East				Magazine.
9	Eastern, cross middle Room..	30	10	15	Loyal Irish, a kind of a Guard Bed in it.
10	}				} Dark and unhabitable.
11	}				
12	South side room	40	10	20	Guard room, and a good Guard Bed the length of the Room.
				177	

Jas. Polson, Quarter Master General.

Jamaica, June the 23d., 1780.

Sir:

I wish, in case there should not be great reason to the contrary, that Major Dalrymple proceed to Rattan, and from thence endeavour to re-establish the Settlers who fled from Black River, and make use of any force which he may be able to form, so as to annoy the Enemy on the continent in the most efficacious manner. I Should think Black River should be the place at which this force should be collected. The Major would, if any man could, conciliate the minds of the Indians, and if the whole. Should not be wanted to the Westward, induce some to join our force to the Eastward. I have great confidence in his activity and fitness for all active points, and when regulars can be spared, some doubtless shall be forwarded, as well as all necessary matters, the moment I shall be made acquainted with the particulars. Should it so happen that the Major does not take upon him the duty, you are then to make choice of the Officer most likely to carry into Execution the above orders, and any other which may, from consideration, occur to you.

The Superintendent should return to the Shore, try to conciliate the minds of the Indians, endeavour to get them to act up their own rivers against the Enemy, and perhaps persuade the bettermost ones to join the people of the Bay, so as to cause an alarm in or about the Gulf of Dulce, and the more Easterly ones to join our force again at St. John's.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

P. S. Enclosed I send you further instructions for your future conduct.

Endorsed. Received the 3d. August, Enclosing further Instructions. Answered in part.

(Enclosure.)

Further Instructions for Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

June 23d., 1780.

Although the instructions you have already received are full and explicit with respect to my wish of establishing a footing on the Lake of Nicaragua, yet in case that interesting object cannot be happily accomplished, and which is of all others the most desirable, the secondary views of creating a serious jealousy in the province of Nicaragua, and the destroying of the Castle of St. John, are objects of such Essential consequence to the future success of his Majesty's arms in that quarter of the Globe, that I am persuaded they will be regarded by you with every possible attention.

The longer your stay is made at the Eastern end of the Lake of Nicaragua, the more complete the Jealousy of the Spaniards, and the more extensive their preparations in directing to that point their greatest powers and force from all quarters of the Country; therefore the sooner you advance into the Country towards Granada, the more likely are the Operations of the Enemy to prove abortive. But in the discharge of that duty, which I am persuaded will be performed with every degree of military address on the part of your little army, you are not to hazard more than is absolutely necessary on that occasion; the value of such a service will be always estimated from the conduct displayed and loss sustained in accomplishing of it.

However, as the principal force of the Spaniards seem at present directed against the progress of our army towards the Lake of Nicaragua, and as their Numbers and the Nature of their posts may be such as to baffle your best efforts in forcing them to retire, I would recommend, rather than hazard a conflict which may be dubious in its success, and even if successful may perhaps be purchased at too extravagant a rate, to turn your ideas from further progressive motions into that country, and send off your Artillery and Stores for the harbour of St. John. That Service

accomplished, and as soon as the whole of your Craft shall arrive at the Castle of St. John, you will destroy such of the Enemy's Artillery as you cannot conveniently carry along with you, blow up the Castle, withdraw yourself with the troops under your command to the harbour of St. John, and without loss of time proceed from thence to Bluefields, where I have already sent an Officer to construct proper huts for the reception of your Army. I hope, however, in a very few weeks to have the pleasure of seeing you in Person, in a much more agreeable quarter.

I need not point out to you, Sir, in case you should find it necessary to withdraw yourself from the Castle of St. John, the necessity there is of concealing your intentions from the Enemy, or of not declaring even to the troops under your command your intention of destroying that fort until it is impossible to avoid it; neither need I suggest or advise the expedients to be used against the Enemy on that occasion, by advancing your troops frequently upon them, for the purpose of amusing them with false attacks, while your Artillery, ammunition, and Stores are Sliding off from the castle of St. John to the Harbour. These and other expedients for deceiving the Spaniards will be directed by you on the Spot, as objects present themselves, much better than it is possible for any person at this distance either to foresee or suggest.

You will permit the Superintendent to return to the Shore for the reasons specified in the letter which I have written to him by this opportunity. You will with Major Dalrymple judge for me whether it will likely be more conducive to the good of the Service, the Major's remaining with you, or taking on himself the direction of matters to the Westward.

Sir Alexander Leith's instructions will particularly lead him to forward provisions in preference to all other matters, but both provisions and Stores wanted above I would have removed as soon as possible to the first post at the mouth of the Colorado river, which Island Sir Alexander Leith is directed to fortify, and all provisions

and Stores not wanted to be as readily removed to Bluefields harbour; for as Enemy may then even dispossess us of St. John's harbour for want of a Sufficient naval force to defend it, and after all neither be able to distress us on account of one or the other, nor venture so far up the river.

Bluefields harbour will not admit of Large ships, and a few works thrown up about it will give it a Security St. John's harbour is incapable of. I hope I Shall be able to prevail on the Indians to make excursions up Bluefields river to the Falls, and 'tis not improbable but then we may with facility open a road from thence to the Lake about Mena (a town) not above, as I am told, three days' journey, or from 40 to 50 Miles.

A sloop of 8 carriage guns owned and commanded by Joseph Everitt, a man exceedingly well acquainted with the Spanish coast and the different Indian tribes, I have ordered to be hired into the Service of Government, and in a few days she will be dispatched to the Island of Rattan with a supply of Provisions for the use of the people employed on the public works; also for a deposit, in the event of their being attacked and obliged to retire from the Battery at the entrance of the harbour, a few muskets, some gunpowder, and shot for the Cannon they have there.

A great number of Negroes belonging to the late inhabitants of the Bay of Honduras are on that Island, well accustomed to going up river and working the Craft of that country; one hundred of the best and ablest to be hired, valued, and made good by Government to the proprietors, in the same manner as has been done for those hired in Kingston; 50 of them to be immediately transported to St. John's in Captain Everitt's Vessel, and 50 in another to be hired for that purpose.

To be sent down in this Vessel £500 Sterling value in Articles the best suited for the Indians, to be distributed to those who served under Col. Polson or as shall appear best or most likely to conciliate their affections, by removing any misunderstanding which may have arose in consequence of their having been refused the

prisoners of colour taken at the Fort of St. John, and to incite them to make incursions up the rivers of their own Country into the territories of the Spaniards.

Two Settlers on the Shore, named Grant and Pitt, possess gangs of able-bodied negro tradesmen, born on the Shore, they propose settling at Pearl Key Lagoon. Capt. Everitt is to call at their Settlements, and to agree with them to remove to Bluefields to work under the Engineer, intended to be sent from hence for fortifying that harbour and building temporary houses or huts for the reception of troops.

A Large sloop will sail in Eight days for St. John's with a large Supply of Irish provisions obtained in consequence of the arrival of the Cork Fleet, with 20 Hogshead of Sherry wine, some Sugar, Tobacco, and other necessáries for the use of the troops.

A Large quantity of Canvas painted and prepared in a peculiar manner, for coverings for the boats going up the river and for the use of the troops, with a quantity of boards, plank Nails, tradesmen's tools, &c. (the four last-mentioned Articles are for the construction of proper accommodation for the use of the troops) to be carried to Bluefields after Landing at St. John's the first Specified Articles. Six Carronades (18 pounders), with a Sufficient quantity of Shot, &c., to be sent from hence for Bluefields. Any attack that can be made on that harbour must be by small Vessels, on account of the Shallowness of the Water on the Bar, and by landing troops; therefore the Carronades are looked upon as likely to be useful for Grape, &c. Eight 6 pounders to be taken from the Ship Venus at St. John's harbour, and sent to Bluefields for the further defence of that harbour, as likewise 3 Months' provisions for 100 Men to be employed there as tradesmen and Labourers.

John Dalling.

Jamaica, June 22d., 1780.

Sir:

Capt. Fotheringham, in a letter to Sir Peter Parker, complains that the Battery on the point is not even yet

one-third finished; I wish you to expedite it all in your power, and in case you should not have sufficient strength to carry it on, I desire you will apply for assistance from the commanding Officer of any troops which may hereafter be forwarded, particularly of Negroes, or hire men, if you should be able so to do, allowing them a sufficient pay for their labour. I make no doubt of your carrying on this work as rapidly as possible. Wishing you health, I am,

Your most obedient Servant,

John Dalling.

To the Engineer or commanding officer of the King's troops in St. John's Harbour.

Received August 3d.

(*Private.*)

Jamaica, June the 23d., 1780.

Sir :

I do not wish to find fault with my friend Polson, but on such an occasion the Indians should have been satisfied, particularly when we knew they did not want to retain in order to use their Prisoners ill, and when it was not clear that, because the people of Colom taken, said they were free, they really were so. I very well recollect that Duke Isaac would have nothing to do with the Negro slaves, because he said they were *damned Saucy*, nor with the white people, but desired a proportion of those of Colour might be allowed for no other purpose but to be about their houses and help to cultivate their plantations. This, in all probability, slipped Polson's memory. It passed at Fort Augusta.

I am your most obedient,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

P. S. I wish you to let your officers know, particularly the young ones, to be cautious what they write on public matters ; for should they transmit to this Island an account of hardships, difficulties, and the distresses they

have laboured under, it will serve but to hurt the service and impede my raising reinforcements, not only necessary for them, but take off the greater Part of their hereafter fatigue. On my side assure them of every attention, comfort, and assistance in my power to give.

J. D.

Endorsed. Received August 3d. *Answered.*

Governor's Office, June the 23d., 1780.

Sir:

I am commanded by his Excellency the General to forward to you the Enclosed, which you are to put in the Enemy's way, with any other insignificant papers with it, in order that the deceit may the more readily take effect.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

Edward Barry, Secretary.

It is marked thus (3).

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble, Commander in Chief, St. John's.

P. S.—Enclosed I send you copy of a letter to the Engineer at St. John's Harbour.

E. B.

Endorsed. Received August 3d., 1780. *Answered,* Enclosing a letter to be thrown in the Enemy's way.

Return of Officers belonging to the Corps of Jamaica Royal Volunteers, Commanded by John Macdonald, Esq., Major Commandant, 24th. June, 1780:

Major Commandant—John Macdonald, Esquire.
Captain—Pierce Cooke.
" William Macdonald.
" John Bertrand (died 15th. May, 1780).
" Edward Davis.
" Roger Shakespeare (died 7th. April).

Lieutenant—John Pellett.
" Thomas Fitzgerald.
" William Gale Coke (resigned 24th. June).
" James Douglas (on duty at St. John's Harbour).
" Alexander McLean.
Ensign—Simon Booth (on duty at Cooke's Post).
" William Turner.
" John Davis (on duty at Cooke's Post).
Adjutant—John Pellett.
Quarter Master—Laughlan McLean (died 17th. May).
Surgeon—Bates Watson.
Surgeon's Mate—Piercy Cook.

N.B. Lieut. Morris (now of the Legion) was originally a Lieutenant in this Corps, which occasions a vacancy since his appointment in the Legion.

J. Macdonald,
Major Commandant.

Major Macdonald begs leave to recommend the following Gentlemen to Gen. Kemble for promotion in the Corps of Jamaica Royal Volunteers : Lieut. and Adjutant John Pellett to be Captain, Ensign Simon Booth to be Lieutenant, James Farquhar to be Ensign, Bryan Mighan to be Adjutant, William Macdonald Quarter Master.

J. Macdonald,
Major Commandant.

June 26, 1780.

Return of Royal Jamaica Volunteers, St. John's Harbour, Sept 15, 1780, by William Macdonald, Captain :

Officers Present.—2 Captains, 1 Adjutant, 1 Surgeon's Mate.

Serjeants.—2 present, 2 at St. John's Castle.

Drummers.—5 present, 1 at St. John's Castle, 1 at Jamaica.

Rank and File.—3 present and fit for duty, 16 Sick, 10 at St. John's Castle, 4 at Bluefields, 2 at Colorado Island, 2 absent by leave, 1 servant. Total Rank and File, 38. Total, including officers on command, &c., 60.

Absent Officers.—Major Commandant John Macdonald at Jamaica, Lieut. Thomas Fitzgerald at Bluefields, Lieut. Alexander McLean at Jamaica, Surgeon Bates Watson at Jamaica.

On Duty.—Capt. John Pellett, Commanding at Colorado Island; Ensign William Turner and Ensign James Farquhar, at St. John's Castle.

THE BEARING AND DISTANCE OF THE DIFFERENT REACHES FROM THE CASTLE OF ST. JOHN'S TO THE LAKE NICARAGUA, TAKEN TUESDAY, THE 16TH. MAY, 1780, AT 4 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON.

	Reach.	*Bearing.*	*Miles.*
May 16th	1st.	N. W.	1
	2d.	S. W.	½
Large Creek, right hand	3d.	S.	1½
Slept here first night	4th.	S. E.	¼
May 17th	5th.	S. B. E.	½
A large Creek on right hand	6th.	W.	½
	7th.	W. N. W.	½
	8th.	W. N. W.	¾
A landing place with a shed on the left	9th.	N.	½
A large Island on the right uppermost end, begins the rapids	10th.	N. W.	¼
	11th.	W. N. W.	½
A large Creek on the right	12th.	S. W. B. S.	½
Two Grass Kaeys on right	13th.	N. W.	1
	14th.	W.	1½
	15th.	W. S. W.	¼
	16th.	W. N. W.	½
A Creek on the right	17th.	N. W.	1
	18th.	N. N. W.	½
A Creek on right	19th.	W. B. N.	1¼
Slept here	20th.	S. W.	¾
May 18th.			
A large Island on right and Mountain in sight, bearing S. W.	21st.	W.	½
Small creek on right and one on left	22d.	S. W. B. S.	¼
A creek on right	23d.	N. W. B. N.	½
	24th.	S. W.	¼
Two Huts on right, Creek on left.	25th.	W.	1¼
An Island and two Creeks on the right	26th.	N. N. W.	1¼
Two Creeks on the right	27th.	W. B. N.	1
A large Mud Bank on the right about 120 Yards from the Bank, under water	28th.	S. W.	1¾

	Reach.	*Bearing.*	*Miles.*
A Grass Key on left; slept here 2 nights	29th.	W.	2
Opened the Lake	30th.	W. S. W.	1
			24¾

N. B.—Masts and sails for Craft must be got here before the troops move up.

Remarks.

At the Entrance of the Lake on the Northermost side is a Breast Work 45 feet long, 3½ feet high, and two feet thick, with stakes drove in the Ground, filled up with Straw and dry trash in the middle, a small Shed at upper end facing down the River. This Point we have called Point Expectation; a round Hill near the Point covered with timber. On the Southermost side of the River, low swampy ground covered with Scots Grass; round Point Expectation is a Shed from whence we took a View of the Lake, and observed from thence a Sloop at Anchor bearing W. S. W., distant 4 miles; By appearance seemed to us to be about 60 Tons. Another Sloop we discovered under Sail about 4 Miles farther off, steering about West. An Island in the Lake pretty high, bearing S. W. B. S., distant 9 miles. A small Island W. half S., 12 miles. A large Island West, 15 Miles. Two high Islands seemingly joined, bearing W. N. W., 12 Leagues. A small Kay appearing, like three Crafts under Sail, bears S. W. B. W., 9 miles. Four high Mountains, the 1st. Bearing W. S. W., The 2d. S. W. B. W., 3d. S. W. B. S., 4th. Bearing S. B. W.

In going through the Rapids, keep on the left hand near two thirds of the way up. And then cross over to the right upon a Slope forming a kind of an S, taking care of the Sunken Rocks near which you must pass. In the Channel there is full three feet Water.

James Wright.

To Brig.-Gen. Stephen Kemble, Commander of his Majesty's forces at St. John's Castle.

Courses of St. John's River from the Castle to the Harbour.

By Captain Lamb.

COURSES.		YARDS.	REMARKS.
S. E.	70	2,700	
N. E.	70	440	
S. E.	51	3,520	Lookout Island.
	46	264	Lookout Island on left.
	26	240	Length of Island.
	20	360	
S. W.	15	180	Small Island on left.
N. E.	80	1,100	
S. E.	22	1,000	
	60	450	
	30	600	To Island head of falls.
	45	360	Length of Island.
	70	230	
N. E.	35	700	Rocks and Falls.
S. E.	46	440	Creek on River.
N. E.	35	330	
	60	320	
	66	70	To falls ; creek on left.
		130	
S. E.	80	70	Small Island on right.
		670	A creek on each side.
		220	
N. E.	80	3,300	
	65	220	
S. E.	75	1,760	
	30	320	
	70	230	
N. E.	76	880	
S. E.	58	1,100	
	15	660	
	30	1,110	
S. W.	50	1,760	
	57	1,760	
	20	230	
N. E.	30	1,760	
		240	
	85	3,000	
S. E.	35	560	
	60	140	
N. E.	70	1,320	
S. E.	68	180	

COURSES.		YARDS.	REMARKS.
	50	180	
	10	120	
S. W.	53	150	
S. E.	26	130	
	30	880	To an Island and Costa Rica River on right, going up S. E. 20.
N. E.	42	270	
N.		120	
N. E.	65	880	
S. E.	80	1,830	
	74	3,080	
	20	660	
	45	370	
N. E.	40	960	
	80	270	
S. E.	76	1,940	An Island on right.
		580	Another Island 12 chains long.
N. E.	64	600	This Point narrow.
N. W.	25 & 30	220	
N. E.	55	600	
S. E.	74	1,000	
N. E.	66	320	
N. & N. W.	10	900	
N. E.	25	340	
	70	320	
S. E.	65	900	
	40	580	To a large Island.
		1,100	Small Island close to the right.
		220	A large Island.
	75	560	End of the Island.
		220	
	34	220	
	70	2,000	An Island about two-thirds down on left.
	35	1,320	To an Island.
	55	140	
	80	3,600	Half-way down Creek on right.
S. W.	10	140	To Serapique River on right S. W. 80.
S. E.	40	140	
To	60	150	Small Island on left.
N. E.	63	2,200	
		1,500	To two small Islands on left.
S. E.	86	1,320	A large Island ; small one on right.
N. E.	20	2,440	
	68	560	The Nicaragua branch on left, and an Island on right.

COURSES.		YARDS.	REMARKS.
		110	A small Island on left.
		440	
		1,000	To a small Island and two in middle of River.
	49	900	
	10	1,500	
	64	1,900	
	71	1,320	Cook's Island.
	50	620	An Island on the Point of Colorada Branch, this branch on right.
N. E.	50	2,000	To an Island on right.
	60	1,320	
	55	340	
		1,100	
	70	660	An Island on right.
	84	1,900	
	60	1,122	
	30	570	
	24	370	Grass Island.
		1,400	Grass Island.
N. W.	15	340	
	12	320	
N. W.	35	1,000	Island both hands.
		670	Island both hands.
	25	440	
		660	
		560	
N.		2,200	Many small Islands.
		1,320	St. John's branch N. E. 40.
N. W.	75	266	
	60	270	
	40	120	
S. W.	75	220	
N. W.	70	350	
N. E.	38	350	
N.		270	
N. W.	60	120	Nicaragua branch up S. W. 40.
N. E.	12	260	Down to Harbour look.
		176	
N. W.	25	660	Lookout point.
	35	660	Harbour, or River Mouth.
		99,648	

DISTANCE AND COURSE FROM ST. JOHN'S HARBOUR TO THE RAPIDS.

DATES WHEN TAKEN.	COURSE.	LENGTH OF EACH REACH.	
		Miles.	Yards.
28th. March, 1780.....	S. E. B. S.	2	
Quit the Nicaragua branch...	S. B. W.	1	
	S. E. B. E.		300
	S. ½ W.		300
	S. W.		100
	S. E. B. E.		450
	S.	1	
	S. S. E.	1	
	S.		200
	W.		100
	S. B. W.	1	
	W.		100
30th. March	S.		100
	S. S. E.		300
	S. S. E. ½ E.	1	900
	S. W.		100
	S. E.		900
	S. B. E.	1	
	S. W.		450
	S. S. W.		200
	S. E.		50
	S. W. B. S.		600
	W.		50
	S. S. W.		60
	N. W.		50
	W.		60
	W. B. S.		600
	S. W. B. W.		500
	W. B. S.		600
	W.	1	
1st. April.....	W. S. W.	1	900
	S. S. W.		50
	W. B. S.		200
	W. S. W.	3	900
	W. B. S.		900
Enter the Coloradoes.....	W.	2	900
2d. April.....	S. B. W.		450
	S. W. ½ W.	2	
	W. B. S.		1,400
	W. B. S. ½ S.	1	450
	S. W. ½ S.	1	450

DATES WHEN TAKEN.	ORDERS.	LENGTH OF EACH REACH.	
		Miles.	Yards.
	S. S. W.		800
	S. W. B. W. ½ W.		600
	W. B. N.	1	900
	W. S. W.	1	800
3d. April	W. S. W.		1,400
	S. W. B. W.		900
	N. W. B. N.		600
	W. B. N.	2	
	N. W. ½ W.	1	
	N. W. ½ N.	1	
	W. N. W.	2	
	N. W. ½ N.		200
	W. N. W.	1	900
	N. W. ½ N.	1	
4th. April	N. W. ½ N.		800
	N. W. ½ W.		800
	W. B. S.		800
	S. B. W.	1	440
	S. B. W. ½ W.		300
	W. B. S.		440
	W. N. W.	1	200
	W. B. S.		600
	S. W. B. W.	1	
	W. B. N.	1	
	N. W. B. W.	1	880
	W. B. S.		600
	S. W. B. W. ½ W.	1	
	W. B. S.		300
5th. April	W. B. N.		300
	N. W. B. N. ½ W.	2	
	N. W. B. W.		440
	W. B. S.	4	900
	W. B. N.	2	
	W. ½ S.	1	
	S. B. E.		300
Entered St. John's River	N. W. B. W.		400
	N. W. B. N.		300
	N. N. E. ½ E.		200
	N. W. B. N.		300
6th. April	W. B. N.		400
	W. ½ S.		500
	W. N. W.		150
	N. W. ½ N.		600

DATES WHEN TAKEN.	ORDERS.	LENGTH OF EACH REACH	
		Miles.	Yards.
	W. N. W.		400
	N. W. B. N.		250
	N. E. B. N.		100
	N. E. B. E.	1	
	N. B. E. ½ E.	1	
	N. N. W.	2	
	N. W.		1,400
	W. ½ N.		1,200
	N. W. B. W.		200
	N. B. N.		200
	N. W.		300
	W. N. W.	1	450
	W. B. S.		450
	W.	.1	1,400
	N. W. B. W.		200
	N. N. W.	1	450
Total		94	500

Instructions for Capt. Gleadowe.

Capt. Gleadowe is to take the Command while at Bluefields, to see that Mr. Parke carries on the Business he is intrusted with, such as the Batteries on the Bluff and Island, the Huts for the Soldiery, for Hospitals, and other purposes to hold about 1,500 Men. When these Matters are put in train, Capt. Gleadowe with Mr. Parke may explore Bluefields river, in order to ascertain how far we may be able to ascend so as to get as near as possible to a town called Mena, on the Lake of Nicaragua, and the distance of the river to that place, and the difficulties attending a March through the Woods. If the minds of the Indians can be conciliated, Negroes be obtained, and such difficulties not very great, the General wishes the road to be opened.

Messrs. Pitt, Grant, Wood, and Bigby, or any other persons living near, giving their assistance in any

respect, shall be amply rewarded, and commissions forwarded to them in Consequence of information from Capt. Gleadowe.

I engage my word and honour to reward them to the utmost of their Wishes. Capt. Gleadowe will do a most essential piece of Service in rubbing out of the minds of the Indians any disgust they may have taken, may Safely assure to them extensive presents, and of an Army coming to drive the Spaniards out of the Country entirely.

Craft also he is directed to hire or buy, forwarding those which are not necessary for their own purposes to St. John's Harbour as fast as they can.

The usual way of holding meetings with the Mosquito Indians is to begin with the King at Sandy Bay, then Gen. Tempest at Palook, the Governor next near Tebuppy, finally the Admiral at Pearl Key Lagoon; but I understand Capt. Gleadowe proceeds first to St. John's harbour, then to Bluefields, which will induce him to hold his first meeting with Admiral Dilson and his friends in the Lagoon, in Spite of the usual formality of waiting on the King first. The Gentlemen I would principally recommend to Capt. Gleadowe to assist him in this meeting are Capt. Anderson, Messrs. Patterson and McHarg, all of whom are neighbours to the Dilsons, and are proper to advise with in giving presents, &c., &c.

As the Admiral covers the Mosquito frontiers to the Eastward, and Gen. Tempest to the Westward, they are the Chiefs whose friendship is to be most attended to in these times. I am of Opinion Admiral Dilson will furnish a quota of men to immediately cut the road from Bluefields to Mena river, and to make such Communications with St. John's fort as should be deemed most expedient.

I need not mention to Capt. Gleadowe that every cast or quota of Indians should be kept Separately from another, under the Management of a discreet Officer, whose temper must bend a little to their caprice.

Price Eugene and the Duke of York are two Indians much to be dreaded; if they can be Conveniently sent to Jamaica, it will be attended with Advantage.

John Dalling.

Kingston, July the 3d., 1780.

Jamaica, July 24th., 1780.

Sir:

I am ordered by his Excellency the Governor to inform you, that as the Troops and Fleet from England are on their way down from Barbadoes to Jamaica, from whence they will sail immediately to the Main, you are directed to get together as many Negroes as you can possibly hire, and push forward the works intended to be erected for the Defence of Bluefields Harbour and Island, and that the Huts on the Bluff must be dispatched as quick as possible, as his Excellency intends rendezvousing at the Corn Islands, from whence he probably may send some Troops for Bluefields. Having effected this, the next Thing you are to attend to is the Road from Bluefields Falls to Mena on the Lake; if it can be opened, it will be of the first advantage, as Men may be thrown in that way occasionally.

His Excellency makes no Doubt but you have before now effected the main purport of your Mission, *Viz.*, the Friendship of the Indians. This last Service is to be particularly attended to, as thereon much hinges as to the Success of the Campaign; therefore you are desired to exert every Nerve to bring about a Matter of such very great Importance. Promise them large Quantities of different Kinds of Presents; there are enough in the Fleet. Be sure to get as many Slaves together as possible; their numbers will take off the disagreeable Part of the Service of the Army.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

Edward Barry, Secretary.

To Capt. Gleadowe.

P. S. I beg leave to inform you that the Governor expects to hear particularly from you immediately on his Arrival on the Coast.

E. B.

Endorsed. Received and opened 26th. Aug. R. K.

Jamaica, July 25th., 1780.

Sir:

I have the pleasure of informing you that the London Fleet sailed with the Army for the Main on the 16th. Inst., from Barbadoes, so that we are in hourly expectation of their arrival here.

After the necessary arrangements are made for their passage from hence to St. John's Harbour, you may rest assured that I will lose no time in pushing forward to join your little army with every possible dispatch. I propose rendezvousing at the Corn Islands, and will expect to hear from you very minutely as to your situation, and the difficulties you have had to encounter.

I have been very uneasy at your long silence, it being now upwards of six weeks since I have had any dispatches; I attribute it solely to your anxiety to push matters forward, and hope ere this you have got all your provisions and troops up from the Harbour, and are in quiet possession of the Lake. I am particularly desirous of knowing whether the troops are recovered in their health by their passage into a more open Country, and pray you to assure them that I have provided everything for their future comfort.

Capt. Gleadowe has been ordered down to Bluefields with a Mr. Parke, an Engineer, who is directed to put the Bluff and Island in a proper state of defence. Capt. Gleadowe is ordered to recover, if possible, the friendship of the Indians, by promising them abundance of presents, vast quantities of which are coming out in the Fleet. Having secured their Interest, he is ordered to explore a road, now overgrown but formerly open, from the falls of Bluefields River to Mena on the Lake,

as by this road, in case of necessity, I would be willing to throw in some Men as they might be wanted.

At your departure, and in the subsequent instructions I sent down, I have requested you would be particularly attentive in getting the best intelligence of the Country around the Lake, and in particular desired you to find out whether the road, said to be made from Carthago to the Lake, really does exist, as by it perhaps troops may be passed on to join you after taking that city. To all those matters I wish you to be particularly attentive. You may be assured that I am very anxious to be with you and partake of your difficulties.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 26th. August. *Answered.*

Jamaica, 28th. July, 1780.

Sir:

I am ordered by his Excellency Gen. Dalling to inform you that, as it has been reported to him, a great deal of different kind of Craft, fitting for the present Service on the Main, may be had among the St. Blas Indians, you are to give all the assistance in your power to the Indian Chief of that Country, named Col. Toley, as likewise to a Mr. Archibald McEuen, a Lieutenant in the Royal Batteaux Corps, who are both in the Harbour of St. John's, that they may proceed with as much expedition as possible to the St. Blas Country in order to procure such Craft, if possible.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant.

Edward Barry, Secretary.

To the Commanding Officer at St. John's Harbour.

Endorsed. Received 26th. Aug. Answered in G. D. letter.

Jamaica, July the 28th., 1780.

Sir:

In my last, of the 25th. Inst., I had the pleasure of informing you of my determination to proceed to the Main immediately on the arrival of the Troops from England. Since then the dispatch boat Kingston arrived at Bluefields, on the South side of the Island, after a very long passage indeed, no less than 26 days. I am much concerned at the sickness that reigns among the Troops. However, I hope, what with the removal of the sick and convalescent to the Corn Islands, and those in health pushing forward to the Lake where they will meet a more favourable climate, that matters will soon be re-established. I am very uneasy to be with them, and request you to assure them that I have paid the minutest attention to their wants, and that everything you have wrote for is now preparing to be sent down with the greatest expedition. The Fleet from England is hourly expected with Stores of all kinds, beyond even our most sanguine expectations. Nothing, you may rest assured, will be wanting on my side to alleviate the distresses of the Troops. Medical Gentlemen will be dispatched in this Vessel who will attend them during their stay at the Corn Islands. They will carry down all manner of refreshments. Mr. Hodgson, the late superintendent of the Shore, is just come down from the Fleet in the Alert Brig. By his account the weather from August to the middle of November is generally fine on the Shore; he imagines the Spaniards saying otherwise is very likely with a political view of damping the ardour of the Troops. You will perceive by the arrival of Sir Alexander Leith and Capt. Gleadowe at St. John's Harbour that I had adverted to most of the things pointed out as necessary in your letter of the 26th. of June.

Should the Enemy, contrary to my opinion, be able to bar up the entrance of the Lake by the River St. John so as to render it impracticable to force your way by that Channel, yet you are to consider that by the

possession of the Castle you must have it in your power to render the impediments thrown up by them of no importance, as it will be easy to ascertain the command of the Lake by some other River issuing from or running into it.

I repeat to you what I formerly transmitted relative to the rank to be established on the Main, viz.: that the same rank which His Majesty has been pleased to grant to the Provincial Troops, serving in America with the regular Forces, is to take place in the body under your command, and which you are in consequence to put in immediate orders.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 26th. August. *Answered.*

Return of the Troops left in the Garrison of St. John's Castle, 30th. July, 1780:

60th. Regiment, 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 2 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 34 Rank and File; 79th. Regiment, 1 Ensign, 1 Serjeant, 1 Drummer, 29 Rank and File; Royal Irish Corps, 1 Ensign, 1 Surgeon's Mate, 3 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 49 Rank and File; Jamaica Volunteers, 2 Ensigns, 2 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 22 Rank and File; Jamaica Legion, 2 Captains, 25 Rank and File. Total, 181. Artillery, 2 Conductors, 1 Gunner, 3 Followers of the Army, 8 Carpenters, 5 Blackmen.

Names of the Officers at the Castle: 60th. Regiment, Capt. Dixon, Lieuts. Brown and Wolf; 79th. Regiment, Ensign Wardel; Loyal Irish Corps, Ensign Craskill; Jamaica Volunteers, Ensigns Turner and Farquhar; Jamaica Legion, Capts. Sheldon and Herbert.

Return of the strength of the Different Corps at First coming to St. John's according to the best accounts I can get:

Regiment, 60th., Rank and File.....	163
" 79th., " "	271
" Loyal Irish Corps.....	256
" Jamaica Volunteers.....	175
" Jamaica Legion.....	205
" Royal Batteaux Volunteers..	140
	1,210
Came down with Lieut. Wolf....	25
Total.....	1,235
Present strength, Aug. 22d., 1780.....	430
	805

Richard Bulkely,
Acting Adjutant General.

A Return of Provisions and Rum at the Commissary's Store, as also in the Castle, 31st. July, 1780: 3 Barrels Pork, 2 Barrels Herrings, 1 Pun. more than half full of Rum, 1 Pun. containing about 20 Gallons of Rum. In the Castle, 46 Bags of Corn. In the Store, 6 or 700 Plantains and 5 Bunches Bananas. In the Pitpan, under care of the Sentry, a Parcel of loose Bananas. Half a Box of Candles in Store St. John's Castle.

Rob Hodskinson,
Acting Commissary.

(Private.) St. John's Harbour, 5th. Aug., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letter of 3d. June, and must confess I think Polson's conduct was rather too Austere, and that he might have given the Indians a greater latitude, without infringing the Articles of Capitulation; but he is wary, and constitutionally cautious and fearful of giving offence when his word and honour was engaged.

I shall observe your hint relative to Officers talking on Public matters in any respect, more particularly of

the Situation of affairs here, and have in conversation repeatedly spoke on the Subject in such a manner as that it might come to their Ears. I must now assure your Excellency that an Unwearied Application to public business has employed every moment of my time; that I have acted for the good of the Service in every instance, as far as my judgment would permit; That difficulties, disappointments, and the distress of those under my Command prey upon my Mind so strongly that I almost wish to be relieved from a load of business I am not equal to. At times not an Officer to Assist me, and the whole routine of business, even to the Deputy Commissary, must go through my hands. I find all has been in a State of confusion almost ever since I left this place. Soldiers have died by being kept on board Ship, and the Officers who were here never had the Sense to construct Huts for them, which I shall immediately set about doing, as I am persuaded they will be better on Shore till they can be sent to Bluefields. I am flattered with the Idea of seeing your Excellency here; such a Report prevails, and I hope not without foundation.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Jamaica, August the 10th., 1780.

Sir:

From the different Reports received at home of an intended Invasion of this Island by the combined Powers of France and Spain, from the vast Superiority of the Enemy's Fleets to Windward, and from the many Fears Government at home are alarmed with for the Safety of this Island—which I am ordered to consider as my primary Object—and lastly, from the great delay the Troops have experienced in coming out, together with their very sickly Situation, I am afraid, let my Inclination be never so great to move down in force to your Assistance, that I shall not be

able to effect it with that Dispatch the urgency of Matters may seem to require. Surrounded as I am with a Choice of Difficulties, to use the Expression of Gen. Wolfe, it remains only to act for the best. Necessity will oblige us to conform to Circumstances. Prudence, if not Wisdom, directs the latter Step; Conscience, if not Philosophy, will bear us up under unlucky Circumstances as to the former: unless, therefore, I receive very soon opposite directions to what my last Dispatches contained, I must sit down mortified that you will not so soon see me as my determination was.

Capt. Gleadowe has been some time, I hope, at Bluefields with Mr. Parke, an Engineer, conciliating the Minds of the Indians, exploring the River of that Name, and the Road from thence to Mena on the Lake. Dr. Irving and the Rev. Mr. Stanford, the Chaplain General, sail in a few Days for the same Purposes, with a great Quantity and Variety of presents for the Indians. God grant them Success! a Number of the best huts for the Soldiery, as well as Hospitals, will be there constructed, and the Harbour strongly fortified.

It is impossible for me at this time, not knowing your present Situation nor to what point you have been able to push your Arms, to give you any positive Instructions; 'twill be a great pity, should you be in possession of the Post on the Lake, to relinquish that, from which, if you was but even reinforced with a few Hundreds of Men, our Movements hereafter could be carried into the Heart of our Enemy's possessions with so much facility. The unhealthy and tedious River of St. John's would serve but as a Channel for our heavy Stores of different kinds, and the Communication by Bluefields, if ascertained, for the general route of our Troops. By this Means, I verily believe, our Exertions would not subject our future force in any degree to that Sickness which the first has unfortunately experienced, from Fatigue, and from the necessity of lingering so long on an unwholesome River.

I would now, Sir, have you prepare, but with close Secrecy, for a retreat; and that retreat, after having destroyed the Fort St. John (this must be done only in the last necessity), and removed everything in your Power to send away or take with you, should be made to Bluefields, where I hope tolerable comforts will be prepared for you, and from the healthiness of that Place (better think of some part of the Continent than any Island, as you will run the risk of being cut off should the Spaniards be superior at Sea), the Corn Islands, and perhaps Providence, if not at too great a Distance, new health will arise to the poor Sick.

By taking Post at Bluefields, instead of evacuating the continent altogether, we shall still perplex the Enemy, and be ready to strike them through the same Channel again, or carry our Arms to some more distant point. I have spoken of a retreat, as it is necessary to take into Consideration your Situation in every point of View; but I am rather inclined to believe we shall pursue the blow, and that the difficulties and obstructions which now present themselves will soon give way to fairer prospects and more favourable Expectations. All things are forwarding as fast as possible for outward Service, and in my next, if I should not have the Satisfaction of hearing from you before that Time, I shall hope to be sufficiently explicit. To your Instructions I refer you, and on your prudence and good Sense I rely. Enclosed I send you our little Army brigaded.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received the 29th. Answered by Kingston Packet.

St. John's Castle, 10th. Aug., 1780.

The information of a Spanish Soldier, taken a few minutes before his death:

Belonged to a party that was sent off yesterday

morning from the Lines at the entrance of the Lake, by Order of the Commanding Officer, to Reconnoiter the British forces at St. John's; that when he came away they had in the Lines 14 Cannon and Swivels (a greater number of the latter) and 500 men; that a great many of our deserters came over to them; that they were all sent off to Granada but 4 that arrived lately. One of their Vessels was Armed, the other was not; and that the Spaniards hourly expected more force from Granada.

The information of a Black Soldier, of the same party:

Was ordered off yesterday morning by the Commanding Officer.

Commandant of the post called St. Carlos, and one of the above party, Being asked the force now there, gives the following exact account:

Remarks.	No. of Troops fit for duty.	No. of Troops Sick.	Total force that arrived at the post.	District from whence these Troops came.
Regulars.....	50	50	100	Omoa, last from Guatemala.
	30	20	50	Managua Provincial Troops of Colour.
	30	20	50	Leon " " "
	30	20	50	Chocoya " " "
	10	40	50	Weygalpa " " "
	30		30	Lavila " " "
Artillery.....	15		15	" " " "
	100		100	Besides a great number of Artificers. Granada Provincials at St. Michael's waiting for Craft to bring them to the post.
Collected from the different Islands in the Lake to act as Mariners.....	50		50	On board the Schooner Conception, mounting 2 large guns, 12 and 8 pounders forward, and Swivels on the Sides.
	35		35	On board the Sloop, mounting 2 small Iron Guns forward and 11 Swivels.
	48		48	On board of 4 large Craft, mounting 6 Swivels each.
	32		32	On board 4 smaller Craft, mounting 2 Swivels each.
Total employed to complete the post.	460	150	610	The Craft constantly employed in bringing Stores from Granada.

He further says that the Spaniards are two months past building two large Vessels on an Island near Granada, that are to be armed and act against the British

force in the Lake. The fort at the entrance of the Lake is a Square made of earth and logs; the parapet on the outside is about 7 feet high, without a ditch; the Abbatis finished, twenty embrasures complete, twelve Carriage Guns and four Swivels in the works, more Cannon expected; the entrance into the fort on the Lake side, a house in the fort for the troops to Quarter in by night, a few Houses at the back of the hill for the men to cook in by day. Since the Spaniards came to that post they were joined by 15 deserters from the British, all of whom (the last four excepted) were sent off to Granada. The prisoner exactly describes five of them, viz., Gomez, Peter Liskin, Mad Tom, Serjeant Young, and a Frenchman. Being asked if he knew of a road from the post to St. John's, *His Answer*, he knew nothing of it. A few days ago, he says, they discovered a reconnoitering party of British and the place where they secreted themselves on a small Island, and that the Spaniards posted 15 of their best men, well Armed, at the same place, expecting the British would return.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed: Deposition of Francisko,
Your a Spanish Prisoner, Aug. 10, 1780.

Jamaica, August the 13th., 1780.

Sir:

I am ordered by his Excellency the Governor to Signify to you that as Lieut. Craskell, of the Loyal Irish, is in a bad state of health, and his parents are uneasy about his situation, to give him leave to come to Jamaica in the first returning Vessel.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Very humble and Obedient Servant,

Edward Barry, Secretary.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 17th. Nov. *Answered.*

A List of Appointments made by Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

August 16th., 1780.

May 10th. Dr. Dancer to be Physician to the General Hospital.

May 20th. Capt. Bulkeley to act as Adjutant-General.

June 21st. Mr. Gerald Fitzgibbon to be Assistant to the director of Crafts.

Jamaica Volunteers.

June 27th. Lieut. and Adjutant John Pellet to be Captain vice Bertrand deceased 17th. May; Ensign Booth to be Lieutenant vice Pellet 17th. May; Mr. John Farquar, Gentleman, to be Ensign vice Booth 17th. May; Mr. Bryan Mighan to be Adjutant vice Pellet preferred 26th. June; Mr. William McDonald to be Quarter Master 26th. June.

Jamaica Legion.

July 19th. Ensign Colburn to be Lieutenant vice Fanning deceased.

July 22d. Ensign Caldwell, of the R. B. Volunteers, to be Assistant to the Director of Crafts.

Aug. 12th. Capt. Patterson to be Chief Director of Crafts; Richard Bulkeley Acting Adjutant-General.

Jamaica, August the 20th., 1780.

Sir:

Since writing my last of the 10th. Instant, your dispatches, by the Resource Man of war, came to hand. I am sorry to find that such a Mortality has prevailed amongst the Troops. By my last of the 10th. Instant you will perceive that, fearful of disasters in Consequence of the unforeseen Delays at St. John's, I had instructed you to take into your most serious Consideration how far it might be judged expedient to advert to a Retreat, in order that the sickly Troops, by a timely Change of Situation, might the more easily get at such comforts as they seem to stand most in need of. I there submitted

it likewise to your consideration the different Situations the Troops were to be placed as the most conducive to their speedy recovery.

I am now to inform you that as the possession of the Lake Nicaragua is the grand and primary Object of administration at home, you therefore, by being on the Spot, will be better able to judge how far the keeping possession of the Castle of St. John will appear practicable, even though the force at St. John's Harbour should be for a time removed, or how far it would, in any Degree, facilitate our future Approaches to the Lake, and whether it ought to be preserved at every risk. Should you judge it expedient to adopt the above Opinions, provisions, if possible, must be immediately thrown into the Fort, and its defence spiritedly resolved on, for good reasons must be given for destroying a Fort that cost us so much Trouble in the Acquisition, is in the centre of the Enemy's Dominions, and is looked upon at home as the Key to our future Conquests. If Provisions cannot be thrown in, You will then of Course think of its Demolition. After having previously conveyed away all the Stores, Ammunition, &c., and destroyed such as cannot be carried off, the Troops must drop down to the Harbour, where they will find three Transports, each with three Months' provision on board for 200 Men, besides an extra Complement of Seamen to assist in navigating the Transports now at St. John's Harbour.

The unfavourable Season of the Year, the unhealthiness and debilitated State of the Troops, the mortality amongst the Seamen of his Majesty's Ships and the Transports, the almost unsurmountable Difficulties of transporting Craft with Troops and provisions up the River during the present prevalency of the floods, these joined with the particular Situation of this Island at present have determined me to delay sending down reinforcements and to wait a more favourable Season for carrying into Execution his Majesty's orders; at the same time you may rest assured that I shall embrace the ap-

proaching favourable time of the year and prosecute the war with redoubled Vigour. By an Opportunity that will offer in a few days I will transmit the resolutions of the two Brigadiers relative to the intended operations.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 29th. Answered by Kingston Packet.

St. John's Harbour, August 22d., 1780.

Sir :

When I had the honour to write your Excellency last, I had just arrived at this place, and hearing the Pelican was to sail the next day, I requested a delay of 24 hours, and had only time to give you a detail of my quitting the Castle, passage down the River, and other matters relative to the situation of Affairs there, Enclosing a Return of the Troops left at the Castle, and a Copy of my Instructions to Sir Alexander Leith.

I had not then leisure to enquire, or time to give you an idea of the deplorable state of the Troops I had sent to this Harbour, most of whom, I had flattered myself, had gone to different places on the Shore, as expressed in my Letter of 5th. July ; But the enclosed state of the Transports and Seamen will show the impossibility of my directions on that head being put in execution. And the Vessels employed by Capt. Gleadowe and Major Jenkins put an effectual stop to all thoughts of removing the Troops.

The mortality that has raged among all Ranks and Denominations of People is not to be expressed without feeling the most sensible Concern; and though I have acted in every respect for the best, as far as my abilities extended, I cannot but feel infinite pain and regret in the bare relation. The enclosed Return will show your Excellency the present sad state of the Troops, which is as correct as possibly can be made in

our present situation, not having Officers or even Non-Commissioned Officers in sufficient health to inspect and make such exact Returns as I could wish.

I acquainted your Excellency in a former Letter from the Castle, that I had sent Capt. Colvil of the 79th. Regiment to the Harbour, to take charge of the Sick and proceed to the Corn Islands. But although that arrangement was altered, or if it had not been, little prospect of removing the Troops offered, And they have notwithstanding been kept on board Ship, where they breathed nothing but putrid Air, to the great prejudice of the Service and loss of numbers. Capt. Colvil has been so extremely ill and low ever since I came down, that little or no information could be got from him.

I have now got Huts put up on the Southside of the Harbour for the Well and Convalescents, by Advice of the Surgeon General, leaving the General Hospital on the Northside that there may not be any Communication between them. The Vessels by this means will be cleansed, and with proper management the infectious Air removed; for were they even fit to go to Sea, and had Sailors to man them, it would be certain destruction to keep the Troops on board.

But they are all in so bad a Condition, that probably not any of them will ever be fit for Service Again, as you'll see by the enclosed Report of the Agent, and the ill health of our Carpenters excludes all hopes of repairing them, the Venus particularly, whose Cargo I am busy in taking out that she may be run on shore.

I acquainted you in my last of the want of proper Vessels to remove the Troops to Bluefields agreeable to your directions. No opportunity has offered till now to forward that Service, but the arrival of Mr. Wood in a small Schooner from that place gives me a conveyance for a few Troops and the six 6 pounders ordered to be sent there. Capt. Parke in the Sloop Success sailed sometime prior to my arrival for Bluefields, and retur ed into Port a few days after the date of my last dispatch, the Vessel having received con-

siderable damage in a gale of Wind; she is now near repaired and will proceed on her Voyage again in a few days. The few Troops who remain in health, who are in fact only Convalescents, I shall keep here, having received information by an Indian that the Spaniards talk of attacking this place and the Mosquito Shore.

The Indian says he left Cartago about seventeen days ago with two hundred Spanish Troops, that he came with them to Matina as a Pilot, was to have been employed by them along the Coast, and said they were waiting for Shipping to take them on board, which were to come from Carthagena, Porto Bello, &c. This Fellow is a Slave to a Woman at Pearl Key Lagoon, and deserted to the Spaniards from the Island of St. Andreas about a twelvemonth ago. Though I don't put implicit faith in all he says, attention is still paid to it, and I have engaged Allen the Pilot to go and get me intelligence. He is the only Man I can trust or get in this place, proper for the purpose, and his ill health has delayed his departure some days already. It is with difficulty I can collect hands to carry a sufficient supply of Provisions to the Castle. Of course no deposit of Stores can be laid in at the Coloradoes; all that I can at present do is to land some Provisions, &c., on the West point of the River's mouth, the securest place in our distressed situation, and the least liable to be come at by an Enemy in force. At the same time it offers a Retreat in case of necessity by Water alongshore to Bluefields, or for a small body of Men by Land.

Sir Alexander Leith, whom I had entrusted with the Command of the Castle, left it on the 7th. instant on Account of his Health, and arrived at the Harbour the 9th., and though he might have expected a supply of Provisions in time, had his fears on that head, and ordered part of the Garrison down, as the enclosed Return from Capt. Dixon will show when compared with the one I sent in my dispatch by Major Macdonald. He was under the necessity of making use

of the heavy Spanish Craft for the Conveyance of these Troops, I believe; but it was unlucky, as I had left them particularly for the purpose of taking the Weighty Stores on board, as best calculated to carry them.

Sir Alexander's ideas of the Abilities and Perseverance of his Batteaux-Men have been equally unfortunate with those he entertained of the Navigation of the River. His second division of Boats never got further than the Nicaragua Branch, which they took in mistake, and after a fruitless Search to get the passage into the St. John returned to the Harbour wore out with fatigue, sickness, and rendered useless. His third division, by what I can learn, existed only in idea, no Men being left fit to navigate the Boats nor any to be procured.

One Boat of his first division, commanded by Ensign Cameron, left this the 26th. June, took the Serapique or Cartago River by mistake, and was twenty-six days in going up, till he came to a Fall that put a stop to his further progress. This Gentleman returned here on the 20th. instant only, and gives imperfect an Account of his Adventures that I can make nothing of them, and will not trouble you further on the subject, but to add that he saw no traces of a human Creature during the whole course of his Wanderings after he left the St. John.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

P. S. Schooner Kingston sailed Sept. 1st.

St. John's Harbour, August 26th., 1780.

Sir:

I informed your Excellency in my Letter of 5th. inst., that the Monarch would sail in a few days, and that I had thought it best to send the Spanish Prisoners to the Havanna. I have altered my intention so far as to direct her to proceed to St. Jago de Cuba

in the first instance, but if not able to make that Port, to bear away for the Havanna. This will give a colour to the Master's keeping to Windward, and enable him with a greater certainty to touch at Jamaica, but it was the 14th. inst. before she proceeded on her Voyage. All Papers relative to this business are herewith sent for your further information.

Mr. Shaw having wrote very fully to Mr. Ross relative to the loss of the Horatio, I beg leave to refer you for particulars to his Account of that matter, who is much better able to give a true state of the case than I possibly can do.

I enclose your Excellency a Copy of my Answer to Messrs. Cairns and Thomson on the subject of Capt. Gleadowe's unexpected death, expressing in their Letter to me a very proper and just concern for the loss of that worthy Officer, and requiring my Directions for their further Conduct. What I have said to these Gentlemen relative to buying and hiring Craft, Pitpans, &c., shall be immediately countermanded, and Orders sent to procure all they can, as well as to the Officers going to Bluefields, &c., as I see by Mr. Secretary Barry's Letter to the late Capt. Gleadowe it is your intention. This Letter I opened expecting I might get some insight into that business, not knowing what Instructions had been given.

The want of proper Officers to Command the New Corps that have come down has tended much to the prejudice of the Service; those that were nominated to Command them had other occupations perhaps more material, and entirely engrossed their attention, while the care of the Corps has devolved on Gentlemen who never were in the Service before, and know nothing of their duty. This is experienced every day. Returns are hard to be got, and when they are, so imperfect that nothing can be made of them, and all is guess work. From the raising of the Legion to this day, I question if an exact Return was ever made of them. Sheldon might come near it, but his prin-

cipal attention was taken up with the Loyal Irish. Double Commands also are productive of many inconveniences; when I was up the River, what from Sickness, &c., there was only one Officer, Ensign Craskil, properly belonging to the Loyal Irish, Sheldon Acting with both Legion and his own Corps. Surgeons particularly having double Commands in such a Country as this hurts the Service much; Surgeons of Regiments, Mates of the Hospital, and Mates of Regiments are substituted and act in two or three different capacities. How much better would it be, that each of these Offices were filled with its distinct Officer; you would then have three for one, and certainly a greater prospect of justice being done the Soldier.

Enclosed I send your Excellency a list of Promotions and appointments, I am also to mention the Resignation of Capt. Campbell, Director of Crafts. If I had given ear to all solicitations that were made to me for leave of absence, I should not have had an Officer left, and even some Resignations I was obliged to refuse accepting. But the Gentleman in question had not health to go through the fatigues of that department, which requires an active, strong, bustling man, the rougher his Manners the better, and of a careful disposition. I believe the late Director possessed many good Qualities, and is a valuable Man. As such I was sorry to lose him. Capt. Paterson, of the Indian Department, succeeded Mr. Campbell as Director of Crafts, and is well qualified for the Department. This Gentleman has been of considerable Service, and Commanded the Germain sometimes; the ill health of the Master and Mate obliging them to go to the Harbour, but the Service did not suffer by their absence.

I am persuaded if Negroes in good health and free from Blemishes were employed solely in the navigation of Rivers, that the public would be better served, and at a less expense. Whites receive no addition of Constitution from being called Batteaux Men, &c.,

and fall sick as fast as others, from whence disappointments daily happen, and Craft two-thirds up the River are sometimes obliged to return, which would not be the case were they manned by Blacks or People of Colour, who by Constitution are better able to bear the Climate.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.
Per Kingston.

(Enclosure.)

List of Promotions and Appointments made by Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Promotions.

Jamaica Volunteers.—Lieut. and Adjutant John Pellett to be Captain vice Bertrand deceased 17th. May, 1780. Ensign Simon Booth to be Lieutenant vice Pellett promoted 17th. May, 1780. John Farquhar, Gentleman, to be Ensign vice Booth promoted 17th. May, 1780. Mr. Bryan Mighan to be Adjutant 26th. June, 1780. Mr. William Macdonald to be Quarter Master 26th. June, 1780.

Jamaica Legion.—Ensign Colburn to be Lieutenant vice Fanning deceased 1st. July, 1780.

N. B. In consequence of an official letter from Major Cribb to Capt. Bulkeley, 79th. Regiment, the following Promotions were given out in orders on 23d. May, 1780: Viz., Capt. Lieut. Bulkeley to be Captain vice Cribb 12th. Jan., 1780. Lieut. Colvil to be Captain Lieutenant vice Bulkeley 12th. Jan., 1780. Ensign Schomberg to be Lieutenant vice Colvil 12th. Jan., 1780.

Appointments.

Ensign Charles Browne, of the 60th. Regiment, to act as Major of Brigade 21st. April, 1780. Serjeant Gross, 60th. Regiment, to attend the Engineer at the Harbour, 1 shilling per day, 25th. April, 1780. Dr. Dancer to act

as Physician to the General Hospital 18th. May, 1780. Capt. Bulkeley, 79th. Regiment, to act as Adjutant-General 20th. May, 1780. Capt. Lamb, of the Indian Department, Sub-Engineer, 5*s.* 1*d.* per day, 6th. June, 1780. Mr. George Saunderson, Apothecary to the Hospital, 10th. June, 1780. Mr. Gerald Fitzgibbon to be Assistant to the Director of Craft, 5*s.* per day, 21st. June, 1780. Capt. Paterson, Indian Department, to be Director of Craft vice Campbell who resigns 23d. June, 1780. Ensign Caldwell of the Batteaux Men to be Assistant director of Crafts, 5*s.* 1*d.* per day, 22d. July, 1780.

N. B. Mr. Rush, Mr. McIntire, and Mr. Alexander, Mates in the General Hospital, but being employed on the Expedition when it first came down, though not regularly appointed, the dates of their Warrants cannot now be fixed, though they will be ascertained hereafter by their Certificates.

Jamaica, August the 26th., 1780.

Sir :

I observe, by the contents of some of your letters, that you cannot help touching upon the faults of some of the Officers under your command ; much is said of the great irregularities and drunkenness of the troops, of the straggling manner in which they often ascended the river, in consequence of which that many of them were drowned. I shall only observe as to the officers, that if they have in any respect, on such a service, conducted themselves as they ought not to have done, an immediate example would have corrected a conduct so full of evil to the Service, and probably of great ill both to the Officer conducting and the person planning. Hitherto I have not received any return of the forces under your command. It would be of the first consequence to our country, could we, by ascending the river again, or by any other means, drive the Enemy from the post at the entrance of the Lake before the grand embarkation from this Country takes place. I would have you take this into your most serious consideration, and, if there

is a possibility of executing it by the river, no man on earth so likely to strike so essential a blow as Capt. Clarke. He will want some labouring Negroes, and Indians also ; to the latter the most ample recompense may be held out, and the promise shall be most religiously preserved.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

P. S. I must endeavour to imprint upon your mind the acknowledged abilities of Capt. Clarke, and the great experience he has had in this war, and the great Services done by him on the rivers in America ; and then, that, Should the premeditated attack be thought feasible by him, you will not only give every assistance in your power, but also direct Sir Alexander Leith or the Commanding Officer at fort St. John to co-operate heartily with him to carry into full execution so desirable a point.

J. D.

Endorsed. Received 11th. Sept. *Answered.*

Jamaica, August the 26th., 1780.

Sir :

By the arrival of Major Dalrymple in the Pelican, your dispatches came to hand. Captain Clarke, who is the bearer hereof, is sent down with an express View of looking into everything that regards the navigation of the River St. John's. He is appointed sole Commander of all Vessels on the Lake, and to him alone is intrusted the Care of getting ready everything relative to the River or Lake Service.

In a former Letter I hinted to you how much Mischief the permission granted to Officers to return to Jamaica upon every trifling Occasion was attended with. I must now request that, hereafter, you may be more strict in that Article. I suppose you have taken the

necessary Arrangements for the distribution of the poor sick, where they may be most likely to recover, and the supplying Sir Alexander Leith with the necessary provisions, the speedy effecting of which is of the utmost Consequence ; when this essential Service is performed, it will be necessary to pay particular attention to the preservation of the Craft, of which we shall very soon be in so great want. You will see by Capt. Clarke's Instructions what is to be done with the Mulatto light Horse and few Negroes now sent down ; more Negroes are now buying up and hiring for the Service, which at a suitable Season shall be sent down.

Would it had been in our power to have occupied the rising Ground on the first Canoe venturing up to the Lake, and taking the two Spanish Boats there ; and it is unfortunate for the King's Service that necessity should have obliged you to return, after having been 18 Days between the fort and the Lake, but I verily believe we shall yet rise superior to all our Difficulties.

Dr. Irving, the Surveyor-General, goes down to Bluefields to conciliate the Affection of the Indians, and explore the Country between the Falls of Bluefields river and the Town of St. Miguel on the Lake. You will, therefore, afford him every Assistance which the Nature of the Service he goes upon may require.

As Bluefields Harbour may in future be probably our depot for Provisions and Stores of all kinds, I must beg your particular Attention to its defence.

Enclosed I transmit you a Copy of Dr. Irving's Instructions, as likewise those of Capt. Clarke and the resolutions of the Brigadiers.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Stephen Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 11th. Sept., Enclosing the Resolutions of the Brigadiers Garth and Campbell, with Col. Irving's and Capt. Clarke's Instructions. *Answered.*

(Enclosure.)

Instructions for Dr. Irving.

Things necessary to be adverted to for the intended Service :

First. On landing such Presents as are appropriated to the Service of the Indians between Cape Gracias a Dios and St. John's, Mr. Irving ought to proceed with the vessel from Cape Gracias a Dios to Bluefields, exerting his Interest with the different Indians, not only to conciliate them to Government, but actually to raise a Corps from among them, to be embodied and ready for immediate Service.

Second. To raise a number of Negroes for the public Service on the best Terms possible, and to incorporate a Body of the ablest among them to serve as Chasseurs.

Third. To invite the scattered Settlers to return to their Habitations, promising them every possible assistance and protection from Government.

Fourth. Mr. Irving is likewise desired to buy up, at as cheap a Rate as possible, as many Cattle as he can procure, for the use of the sick and convalescent, as likewise for the Troops destined for the intended Service.

Fifth. Mr. Irving likewise is empowered to buy up as many Mares for Draught, and Horses for the Dragoons, at as cheap a Rate as possible, and to deliver both Cattle and Horses to Capt. Rochat ; and on getting his Receipt, he is empowered to draw on the Agent General for the Amount.

Sixth. Mr. Irving is required by his Excellency Gov. Dalling to pay a minute Attention to the above Matters. Government will certainly proportion its Rewards to the Degree of Zeal shown by him, nor will the General's further Recommendations be wanting to insure to Mr. Irving the just Fruits of his Labours.

Seventh. As to all military Assistance which Dr. Irving may need, Application must be made to the Commander of his Majesty's Troops on the Shore, who

is directed to give every necessary Aid in exploring the Country between Bluefields river and the Lake.

Eighth. The Country above is to be explored, but in case Indians and Negroes can be obtained, and a road can be made with a degree of ease by them, then the above commanding Officer and Dr. Irving are to take such a Matter into their Consideration, and, if thought necessary, pursue the plan giving a Jealousy to the Enemy that we are about forcing our Way by Bluefields; although not made use of, may have a good Effect.

(Signed) John Dalling.

(Enclosure.)

Instructions for Capt. Clarke.

Jamaica, August the 26th., 1780.

Capt. Clarke is to proceed to Bluefields to examine as readily as possible the Harbour of St. John's; if necessary to employ the Mulatto Corps and the Negroes in carrying up Provisions, to do so. The Mulattoes being free People, to use them gently, and promise after the first Service is over that they shall be employed in their own line, and be mounted as soon as Horses can be had. They must be kindly treated, for fear that we should not be able to raise more. Capt. Clarke is to return to me, if he should think it right; or, if he should judge it best for the Service, to remain there, transmitting to me all particulars for my future Guidance.

Capt. Clarke is empowered to hire any people into the Service, to promise ample Recompense to them, and do whatever he may think will turn out for the furtherance of our passage up the River.

As great Labour will be undergone at times by the People employed by Capt. Clarke, he is to use his Discretion as to the Article of Provisions.

Should it be necessary to carry Provisions up the River, I would rather that Negroes should be made use of in preference to the free Mulattoes, as I think they would be of more Service at Bluefields, and be better

pleased with serving as Tradesmen or on their own Line. This will be determined on as the commander of the forces may think fit.

(Signed) John Dalling.

(Enclosure.)

Resolutions of the Brigadiers.

Kingston, Jamaica, 17th. August, 1780.

At a meeting of the General Officers, convened by Order of his Excellency Maj.-Gen. Dalling, several Extracts of the Secretary of State's Letters were laid before them, which being duly read, and the dispatches from the Spanish Main received the 15th. Instant by Major Dalrymple of the Loyal Irish, being laid before us, together with that Officer's Account of the State of his Majesty's Army at St. John's on the 30th. July;

We the undersigned General Officers, being called upon by his Excellency Gen. Dalling to give our Sentiments relative to the Measures to be adopted and pursued at this juncture, beg leave to submit the following opinions to his Excellency's Consideration:

1st. That, as the possession of the Lake of Nicaragua appears to us to be the chief Object of Government in directing an Attack upon the Spanish Main, no Exertion consistent with the Safety of Jamaica ought to be left untried to accomplish that important purpose.

2d. That it is established from undoubted Information, the Rains have actually set at the Castle of St. John's, and in all human Probability will last to the 12th. of September; that although the Weather is fair and less unhealthy from that period to the 20th. of October, yet when we consider that from the 20th. of October to the first of December the Season is one of the most unhealthy of the Year, and that there is only a Period of Five Weeks to be depended on for active operations, in which Men may enjoy a tolerable State

of Health ; When we consider that a fortnight will be lost in putting together the Gun boats and Batteaux, and in equipping the Transports with necessary refreshments for the reception of the Army lately arrived from England, much worn down by Sickness and Death ; That ten days would be occupied in the Voyage from Jamaica to the Harbour of St. John's, Eighteen or Twenty days in loading and forwarding the Crafts from the Harbour to the Castle of St. John's, and four Days occupied in proceeding thence to the Mouth of the Lake ; When we consider that the present Garrison of St. John's Castle, consisting of One hundred and fifty men, was actually formed of the most healthy Troops of that Army, and that even these were exceedingly emaciated by fatigue and Sickness ; When we consider that the remainder of the Troops were coming down the River for the Establishment of their Health, along the Mosquito Shore, and that it was the Opinion of the superior Officers on the Spot that Sickness and Mortality had become so fatal that there was scarce a hope that the Garrison of St. John's, which then stood ill equipped with provisions, could depend on a supply for any given Period of Time, and consequently that the Troops and Stores of that Garrison are most likely withdrawn, and the Fort itself blown up :

Under such untoward Circumstances and the certainty of there being by the latest Accounts from Cape Francois Two hundred and fifty sail of Ships in that Port, of which Twenty-seven were of the Line, It appears to us advisable at this Juncture to desist from further pursuits by the River St. John's, and to bend our chief Attention not only to the immediate Safety of this Island, but also to the reinstatement of the Army in Point of Health, and to make every necessary Preparation for an Exertion on the Spanish Main as soon as the healthy Season may open, and the Situation of the Enemy's force to Windward can justify such an Undertaking.

3d. That as the debilitated State of the Army at St. John's Harbour appears from every Information to be such as to make it dubious whether they have strength sufficient to collect the military Stores and navigate their Vessels from that Port, we beg leave to recommend that two Transports doubly manned be immediately sent down to the Spanish Main, equipped with Provisions and proper nourishment, to assist in bringing away the Troops now at St. John's harbour or elsewhere.

And in Order no Expedient be left untried to further the Views of Government, We think it also advisable to send down in those Ships Dr. Irving and the Rev. Mr. Stanford and others, with a View to conciliate the Minds of the Indians on the Mosquito Shore, and to explore and ascertain, if possible, the practicability of opening a road from the Falls of Bluefields to St. Miguel on the Lake of Nicaragua, a Tract which was said to have been formerly open for conveying Cattle from that Quarter of the Country to the Settlers at Bluefields.

4th. That in case a future Attack by the River of St. John should be resolved on, we think it advisable that the Gunboats and Batteaux and all kinds of Craft lately arrived from England in Frames should immediately be put together, that no Time may be lost, when the healthy Season takes place, in proceeding to the Main with Alacrity and in pushing the blow with Vigour and dispatch.

But as it has been found by Experience that white People are by no means equal to the Labour of dragging Craft over the Rapids of the River St. John's, or of standing a Continuance of such fatigue in that unhealthy Climate, We beg leave to recommend that a body of able Negroes be hired or bought by Government, as the most certain cheap and effectual means of executing that Service.

(Signed) Geo. Garth.
Archd. Campbell.

St. John's Harbour, August 28th., 1780.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letters of 25th. and 28th. July, by the Sloop Nicaragua, Capt. Cairncross, who arrived here on the 26th. late in the afternoon. This vessel stopped at the Corn Islands, and the Surgeons thought proper to land there with the Hospital Stores, though no Troops to attend. As I apprehend your Excellency will immediately dispatch a Vessel to this place on your arrival at the Corn Islands, I shall do myself the honour to pay my respects, if all things remain quiet. My letters by the Kingston, Resource, and Pelican will show you that I have not omitted one opportunity of writing. Did my Letters contain pleasing subjects, more corresponding with your expectations and my wishes, I should be happy; but I have this comfortable idea left, that it will be in my power to convince you I have acted, during the whole course of my Conduct, for the best, and that the good of the Service has been my constant and sole study, through a series of disappointments and difficulties.

Capt. Lamb, who goes in a few days to Black River, will carry my Letters to Messrs. Cairns and Thomson, and shall have directions to engage Craft and order them to be sent to Bluefields, and do all in his power to contribute to the establishing a good understanding with the Indians. This Gentleman I have appointed Sub-Engineer at 5*s.* per day, and have found him of great use upon various occasions. He sends your Excellency a sketch of the River and plan of the Harbour St. John, adding to it a copy of the Spanish Officer's draft of the Lake of Nicaragua, which, though perhaps not quite perfect, will give you a juster idea of the River and Harbour than anything you may have received, and I can promise for Capt. Lamb's assiduity and every attention to any business you may hereafter commit to his Charge.

If a proper person can be found to explore the Road

from the Falls of Bluefields River to the Spanish Settlements, it shall be done; but, although I have questioned many, I cannot find there is such a place as Mena existing.

The enclosed (Col. Polson will deliver it) is the most circumstantial intelligence I have been able to procure of the Country, and corresponds with the separate accounts given me from time to time. Col. Polson's repeated attacks of the Fever has brought him so low as to make it necessary for him to change the air, for the recovery of his health. He knows my reasons for every step taken during the course of my Command, and can answer every question, as well as give you the fullest intelligence as to climate, situation, &c., &c. To him I will therefore refer your Excellency for further particulars.

By letters of later date than those I had the honour to receive from you, I am informed the Troops are arrived at Jamaica from England. To say more than I have done on the fatal disorders they are afflicted with in these climes, is unnecessary, and it is my firm opinion that any body of Troops sent to act at any time of the year up Rivers of such a length as the St. John's, and exposed to the noxious vapours arising from them, which all must inevitably be, will meet with the same fate. Sad experience may make me dwell too strongly on this subject, but I dread the issue of a similar undertaking.

To make descents partially on the Coast and return to your shipping in time may do; the Sea Air will then have a good effect, and the Troops may recover from slight indispositions, which would take such deep root by a long continuance on the Shore as not to be removed. This is the Surgeon's opinion as well as mine; but could we land in an open champaign Country, where Vegetables, Fruit, &c., were to be got, it might alter the case, and a longer residence in the Field not so much to be dreaded.

Your Instructions, enclosed in your dispatch of 23d. June, I conceived to be a positive Order to quit the Castle of St. John's, in the present state of Affairs, but

as I knew it would take some time before the Stores and Artillery could be sent down, I have directed the Officer Commanding to proceed in that business with all Expedition, and to wait my final Orders for evacuating the Post; but a Paragraph in your Excellency's last letter, of 28th. July, leaves me in doubt, and conveys an idea that it is not your intention the Garrison should be withdrawn and the Castle destroyed.

I did flatter myself that matter could have been ascertained on the arrival of the Nicaragua; but as I mentioned in my letter of the 5th. inst., by the Pelican, that I should wait your further Commands for so important a decision, I now think myself bound to keep possession, if possible, till I receive your further instructions on that head; but the weak state of the Garrison and the weaker state of our Batteaux Men, &c., to man the Craft, make the Tenure precarious.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

By the Kingston.

(Private.) St. John's Harbour, 30th. Aug., 1780.

Sir:

I have not the smallest hope that it will be possible to maintain the Castle or supply the Garrison with Provisions, in our present Situation, and I expect to see them down in the course of a few days. Craft I was under a necessity of sending to bring off the Garrison and Stores, should such a decision take place, or the Commanding Officer be obliged to take that step from unforeseen reasons.

A Craft, manned with the best we could pick from Negroes, and Batteaux Men, gone thirteen days, and only ten Miles above Cooke's Post; two others gone four days ago, under the Charge of Ensign McNight, Legion, not got to Cooke's Post, Men turned and expect to get no further; not Men left to Man one Boat for the Service

of the Harbour, except eight Blacks, of Capt. Parke's, detained for that purpose, and Absolutely necessary for the use of the Shipping, &c.

Capt. Bulkeley so ill as to be obliged to go to Jamaica ; not an Officer left to assist me in any public Department, except Mr. Shaw, Deputy Agent, nor are there any to Appoint from the wretched remaining few, that have health, or would be of any Assistance if they had. Conceive my Situation, Sir, and not the first time in a similar one, though they were then for short periods ; but it is now final, and I can expect no relief.

I think it proper to mention to your Excellency that Mr. Jones, Store Keeper of Artillery, left this Harbour without my leave or knowledge, that I was here upwards of a fortnight without a single Officer or Man of that Department, and I expected to find that Gentleman ready to take Charge of the Stores, and he might have been of some use. But, notwithstanding I make this Report of that Capital Officer, I never wish to see him in the line of Store Keeper of Artillery where I have anything to say or do, nor do I desire more shall be done than to convince the Gentleman who has acted wrong, at the same time expressing that thorough Contempt for his Abilities and Exertions as to make him sensible he never was nor ever will be of any use in a Military Capacity.

I am, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

St. John's Harbour, August 30th., 1780.

Gentlemen :

Being informed by his Excellency Gen. Dalling that you were soon to sail for Bluefields with a large assortment of Presents for the Indians, and to contribute by your influence to the establishing a lasting and firm union with them—a matter of great moment, it is true, particularly in the present situation of Affairs

—but having some small knowledge of these People, and knowing their dispositions in general, I submit it to your Consideration, whether it would not be better to withhold a further distribution at this time, as they are receiving, or probably have received by this day, to the amount of One thousand pounds from Messrs. Cairns and Thomson at Tebuppy.

To deal out all with too open a hand, is often attended with bad consequences. Ingratitude, I am afraid, is considered as a Virtue with these People; and when they have got all they are to expect, neglect and inattention will follow. Besides, by courting them with an assiduity they have no right to, or ever expected, it's natural for them to construe it to arise from your fears of, or a want of their assistance, and they will grow more troublesome than ever. Whereas, by keeping them in expectation of a future reward, they will be much easier managed, and render you more Service.

I am, Gentlemen, etc.,

Stephen Kemble.

To the Rev. Mr. Stanford and Dr. Irving.
By Capt. Lamb.

St. John's Harbour, August 30th., 1780.

Sir:

I am to inform you that by intelligence lately received, the Spaniards talk of invading this Coast by Sea, as well as by the Rivers communicating with our settlements on the Shore. You will therefore be on your guard as much as possible against all attempts.

You are likewise ordered to purchase or hire what Craft and Pitpans in your power for the public Service, and draw on Mr. Shaw, Deputy Agent, for the Amount of the same, transmitting him your Vouchers for the several purchases you may make, with your agreement for the hire of them.

As it is probable you may have a variety of Craft

under your charge, you will take every step for the Security of them.

I am, Sir, your most Obedient Servant,

Stephen Kemble.

To the Officer Commanding at Bluefields.

By Capt. Lamb.

Instructions to Capt. Lamb.

St. John's Harbour, August 30th., 1780.

You will proceed to Bluefields, and from thence to Black River, taking Tebuppy in your way, and if any circumstances may offer wherein you can be of Service to Messrs. Cairns and Thomson in their Treaty with the Indians, you will not fail to contribute your assistance. Mr. Marshal, of Pearl Key Lagoon, has offered to procure a number of Pitpans for the Public Service upon certain conditions. If you can see this Gentleman, and think his proposals equitable, you have my authority to close with him, and let me know upon what terms by earliest opportunity.

You are also authorized to hire and buy Craft and Pitpans wherever they are to be got, and send the same to Bluefields, as well as such as you may engage for with Mr. Marshal, as soon as possible.

You will draw Bills on Mr. Shaw, Deputy Agent General, for the Amount of the same, transmitting the price of each Craft or Pitpan in an Account enclosed in your Letter.

You will inform Major Laurie with the Substance of the Indians' intelligence from Matina, with which you are well acquainted, and that you do it by my Order.

Stephen Kemble.

Jamaica, August the 30th., 1780.

Sir:

By some information given here of a Don Pedro Brezzio, a Lieutenant in a Company taken at St. John's

Castle, and of his seeming inclination to our Service, his Excellency imagines that some good might be got out of him by proper promises. Having been near thirty years a resident in the Province of Nicaragua, if he could be got over, infinite Services might be got out of him. I have by his Excellency's desire given the hint. You, Sir, will be the best judge how far it ought to be pushed. I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very humble and Obedient Servant,

Edward Barry, Secretary.

To Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 11th. Sept. *Answered.*

St. John's Harbour, August 31st., 1780.

Sir:

I had the honour, two days ago, to receive your Excellency's Letter, of 10th. and 20th. inst., by the Kingston. Mine, prepared for the Nicaragua, with this, will go by the Kingston, as the most expeditious Vessel of the two. The Nicaragua to be dispatched in a few days, and to put Col. Toby down in the San Blas Country.

From the great superiority of the Enemy's Fleet, Government had reason to be alarmed for the safety of Jamaica; but I think, from your Excellency's good arrangements and the additional Force lately arrived at your Island, with the sickly state of the Combined Powers, little is to be apprehended, and that they will turn their Arms either to succour the American Rebels or to make some easier conquests.

If I were not conscious of having done everything in my power for the best, Philosophy would give me but little comfort, and I should be wretched in the extreme; indeed, the loss of so many brave Men makes me sufficiently so, as it is. The enclosed Copy of a Letter to Messrs. Irving and Stanford, I hope will meet with your approbation, and, if attended to, will enable your Excellency to distribute to the Indians, either under your immediate eye or by particular directions when

near them, and may have the good effect of attaching them strongly to your Person.

Give me leave to thank you, Sir, for the additional instance of your attention by fixing me in so honourable a Post as marked in the Card you have been so good as send me.

Col. Dalrymple, who sailed in the Resource, might have assured you that I could not remain up the River, as he knew the small Store of Provisions left, and saw no supplies on the way when he came down.

I am not forward to complain, but your Excellency has thrown a great load upon me, the important decision whether or not it is proper to evacuate the Castle of St. John's; were I to act according to my own opinion, instantly. But the possession of the lake by this route being an object Government has so much at heart, I dare not venture, though I fear the difficulties of the Navigation will oblige me to do it at last, for this cruel and inhospitable climate continues to make its ravages on the few remaining Officers and Soldiers, whom I shall remove to Bluefields as soon as the Transports come down, convinced if we remain here two months longer, scarcely one Man will be left.

If the Castle was effectually destroyed, I do not apprehend the Spaniards would attempt to possess it soon again; that they would content themselves with occupying their present Post, especially during the rainy Seasons, and if we went up early in December they would not have time to establish themselves so firmly as to oblige us to make a delay of consequence; but as delays are of all things to be dreaded, and that Route resolved on, it would be best to keep the Castle if possible. But I have my apprehensions even at present for the safety of it; a Pitpan I sent Express on the 11th. is not yet returned. By her I directed Capt. Dixon to send down all the heavy Stores, and have everything prepared for evacuating the place, in consequence of your Instructions enclosed in your Letter of 23d. June, at same time desiring him to give out to the Troops that

no such thing as abandoning the place was intended, and that it was only from the Fears of Supplies failing that the Stores were removed, ordering him to send the small Craft I had dispatched, and the Negroes that navigated them, back with all expedition, as I had no more hands to forward him Provisions; but I have not had an answer to that Letter or heard from him since the 12th. instant, and the business of this place almost at a stand, not having Men sufficient to man (and those miserable wretches) two Crafts, after dispatching two to the Castle with Provisions, and I fear even their abilities to perform the task.

By all the Accounts I have been able to collect, Bluefields River is long and tedious after you pass the first falls, and many Rapids and difficult places to go over before you land from your small Craft, then a considerable distance to the Lake and Spanish Settlements through a great Savanna; but all I can say on this subject is very uncertain and not to be depended on.

When I quit this Harbour for Bluefields I propose to make the following arrangement: A good Officer (if I can find one left) with all the Batteaux Men and Negroes that remain to take Post on Cooke's Island at the Coloradoes, sending all the Provisions I possibly can to that place, to be forwarded to the Castle, and at a proper time afterwards to dispatch a small Vessel from Bluefields with more to be taken up in same manner. But I hope I shall receive your Excellency's positive Orders for my Conduct before that measure is put in Execution.

Since writing the above, a Boat is arrived from the Castle with a Letter from Capt. Dixon of 28th., and my fears redouble. A Craft I sent off 14 days ago is not above ten miles above Cooke's Post, and the hands that were in the two sent since reported to be very insufficient, though the best we could pick out. Nor do I know where to turn for more, but the utmost expedition shall be used in sending off small Boats or Pitpans with such a supply as they can carry; but though I speak in the plural number, I fear we shall not be able to forward

above one Boat. Five Brass French four pounders are embarked in the Kingston ; their carriages, rendered useless, are not sent from the Castle.

Enclosed you have a list of Officers who have died, the Engineer's Return of Stores, and a State of the Garrison at the Castle the 26th. of August.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Humble Servant,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

St. John's Harbour, Sept. 1st., 1780.

Sir :

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of 28th. Aug., with its enclosures. I hope you have husbanded your Provisions as much as possible ; for the difficulty of the Navigation, and the want of hands to man the Boats, make our supplies very uncertain.

By Gilliam's Account some of the Boats I forwarded the 3d. of Aug. from Cooke's Post were a long time in getting up, and the Craft I have sent since I fear will be longer. You should take care to have a Pitpan sent down in time ; delaying that may subject you to many inconveniences, and you will be liable to censure if you don't do all in your power for the good of the Service. I would always have you keep sufficient Boats to remove with in case of absolute necessity. A Craft I sent off on or about the 20th. last month was met by Gilliam about 10 miles above Cooke's Post, was well manned, and proceeding apace. She carried 6 Barrels Pork and 40 and 60 gallon Casks Rum. Two others I have dispatched since, but I fear both will not succeed, from the debilitated state of the Crews, the best we could pick, and none remain for River Service except the one I now send, which you will return immediately. Capt. Flinn, whom I send with the Letter, to come down in her ; if any Stores below the Falls, she may be loaded with them.

Your silence on the subject of Intelligence makes me suppose there's nothing New.

I must now inform you that the Administration have the possession of the Lake of Nicaragua so much at heart, and the preservation of the Castle of St. John, so material an object attending it, that our utmost endeavours will be exerted to supply you with Provisions of all Sorts; but the Blacks and Batteaux Men that carry up the Craft must be punctually sent back, or we shall not have it in our power.

You will likewise endeavour to put the Castle in the best state of defence you possibly can, and send off no more Artillery or Stores after receipt of this Letter.

You will also acquaint me in your next what Cannon remain in the Castle, and where fixed for defence. I know the place will be dismantled in some measure by the Artillery already sent off, but you must make the best of the matter you can.

Should the Enemy offer to attack you, and you can well ascertain their force, so as to be master of incontestable good reasons for quitting the Castle and destroying it, I would as a Friend advise you to it, though in my public Character I must order you to defend it to the last extremity. I am sure the Castle is not tenable with so weak a Garrison as you have for any time, and relief, I must plainly tell you, you are not to expect. Circumstances attending the difficulties of getting Water in case of a Siege should be adverted to, and the advice of the Engineer and Capt. Sheldon taken upon all occasions. An Officer who acts for the best, and who has not had many opportunities of seeing Service, is always considered in a favourable light, when it is proved he has asked the Opinion of those best able to give good Counsel, and is not obstinate in his own way of thinking. Excuse me for being so particular, but as you must be sensible I am thus explicit from the regard I have, I am sure you will forgive me.

I am, &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon, Officer Commanding St. John's Castle.

P. S. Have a care that your Mines are well constructed.

(Private.) St. John's Harbour, Sept. 5th., 1780.

Sir:

I am sorry a Stricter performance of your Duty as Physician to the General Hospital during your residence in this Harbour does not call for a particular Mark of attention from me; did I conceive you had distinguished yourself from motives of humanity or duty, and had contributed as much as was in your power to the Relief of the poor Soldier, I should waive taking Notice of the peremptory terms I think your Note of 3d. instant is expressed in. But, Sir, I impute much to your want of knowledge of the Service; or do you suppose I have nothing to do but to write Orders for Dr. Dancer's particular Accommodation? You were on shore and might have asked where you were to make your Application.

Dr. Welch's state of health, as well as his Superior Rank, requires the first Attention; after him you may be provided for, and an order for your being received on board the Packet will be given by Capt. Davis, Acting Quarter Master General.

I am, Sir, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Dr. Dancer.

(Private.) 6th. Sept., 1780, St. John's Harbour.

Sir:

I am distressed at the necessity of parting with both Drs. Welch and Dancer. The first caught a violent fever the third day after our arrival at this place, solely attributed to his humanity and attention to his duty, by early going among the Sick of the Hospital, examining them personally, that he might regulate matters and order the necessary Articles for them. During this Gentleman's greatest Danger, Mr. Dancer arrives from the Castle with the troops Sir Alexander Leith had ordered down, and almost immediately Applies for leave to attend Sir Alexander, who was going to Pearl Key Lagoon, which I refused, saying, as soon as Dr. Welch was recovered I would not detain him, request-

ing at the same time he would Visit the Hospital and give such directions as he should think proper for the Relief of the Poor Soldier. He replied there was danger in it. However, he went to the Surgeon Mates Attending, and brought me a Return of Men he never saw, as I am Credibly informed; and I am sorry to say Mr. Dancer has not shown that attention to his duty he might have done. His Plea of Sickness and inability to do more, there were some grounds for; but I must confess I am not satisfied with him, and he knows it. I am far from intimating by this that he is not ill at times, but there were intervals when he might have shown more attention.

As soon as Mr. Welch was able to Walk, he paid a second Visit to the Hospital; got a second fever; his recovery uncertain, and his Absence absolutely necessary to give him a Chance for his life.

I think it proper to give your Excellency this Sketch, as the best Apology I can make for permitting these Gentlemen, so essentially necessary in our Situation, to leave us. I must beg leave at the same time to recommend Mr. Saunderson, oldest Mate, and Acting Apothecary, to your Notice, as a deserving Man, and now remains first on the Hospital List. Dr. Malecrieos's death leaves an opening for the Appointment of a Surgeon to the General Hospital, and Mr. Saunderson will be ordered to Act as such, to give him the more Weight.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

(Private.) St. John's Harbour, 7th. Sept., 1780.

Sir:

When you were appointed to Act as Physician to the General Hospital, I told you what I conceived to be your line of Department, and you appeared then not at a loss to understand it. I have not thought it necessary, nor was it to be expected from me, to order you

daily or at any particular time to Visit the General Hospital and prescribe for the Sick. If you have done that, I have not a word more to say.

Your Health has been interrupted, I am very ready to believe; but have you not been well enough at intervals to attend more to so necessary a part of your duty as Visiting the Sick?

As to my leave of Absence, you surely could not suppose from thence that you were exempted from all Attendance in your professional line while you remained in the Harbour?

Had you made your frequent Applications verbally (which in many instances you might have done), it is probable there would not have been any misapprehensions, or if there had been any, they might have been explained on the spot; but you have generally chose the Epistolary mode of conveying your Sentiments, giving yourself and me much trouble.

If private Affairs, such as Rank, Pay, &c., were to be considered by every Officer as Sufficient reasons for quitting his Corps or Department at the most pressing Junctures, and when his services were most required, what would become of the Service? Ill health, and that in the Extreme, is the only excuse a Man can with propriety make for his Absence. Your conduct as a Gentleman will, I am sure, always Command my Esteem; but I am still of opinion you have not been so attentive to your duty of Physician as you might have been, and I must plainly tell you, at the same time I give you permission to go to Jamaica, that I think it proper, even necessary, to give Gen. Dalling my reasons for suffering you and Mr. Welch to leave this at the same time. I hope, as you are now satisfied I do not mean to detain you, that you will consider this letter as sufficient on the Subject and I think must be sensible I have many other things to Employ my time.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Doctor Dancer.

Ships arrived at St. John's Harbour, from Kingston, Jamaica, Sept. 11, 1780, under Convoy of His Majesty's Ship Pelican, Capt. Thomas Haynes:

Ship Sally, William Bell, Master, with Provisions; Ship Betsey, Thomas Dobbins, Master, with Provisions; Ship Flora, Thomas Ayrson, Master, with Provisions; Brig Polly, George Aitchison, Master, with King's Stores.

Stores brought by the above Transports: Pork, 260 bbls.; Beef, 80 bbls.; Fish, 17 bbls.; Flour, 205 bbls.; Ship Bread, 108 bags, 1,080 lbs.; Pease, 88 bbls., 440 bushels; Salt (fine), 2 hhds., 40 bushels; Wine (red), 18 hhds., 3 qr. casks, 1,200 gals.; Rum, 20 punchs., 3 hhds., 1 qr. cask, 2,498 gals.

Extra: Butter, 85 firkins, 5,000 lbs.; Sugar, 1 hdd., 12 bbls., 5,811 lbs.; Coffee, 4 bags, 467 lbs.; Ginger, 7 bags, 416 lbs.; Oatmeal, 6 bbls., 45 bushels; Vermicelli, 24 baskets, 1,200 lbs.; Tobacco, 12 bales, 1,272 lbs.; Vinegar, 3 hhds., 162 gals.

Instructions to Capt. Pellet, of the Jamaica Volunteers, or Officer Commanding at the Coloradoes.

St. John's Harbour, 17th. Sept., 1780.

It being necessary for the good of his Majesty's Service that an Experienced Officer should be left with a small Detachment of Regular Troops at Cooke's Post, joined by a few of the new raised Corps, so as to make in the whole One Captain, two Subalterns, one Serjeant, one Corporal, and fifteen Privates, and relying on your knowledge in Military Affairs, I have thought proper to Appoint you to this duty, which will become a very Essential Command on my quitting the Harbour of St. John's with the Troops and Stores, which I am preparing to do with all Expedition, and to proceed to Bluefields, pursuant to his Excellency General Dalling's orders, for that purpose. You are therefore to take upon you the Command of said De-

tachment and Post, preserve Order and strict discipline among the Troops Committed to your Charge, and use your best endeavours to fulfill in every respect the Important trust reposed in you. You will receive a quantity of Provision intended to be sent to the Castle of St. John's for the use of the Garrison at that place, which is to be kept Apart from that intended for your own Command, including Negroes that may be employed in the Transportation of Provisions to the Castle, of which your greatest attention is required for its perfect preservation and safety.

You will Correspond with Capt. Dixon, or Officer Commanding at the Castle, and receive his or any other of your superior Officers' orders relative to forwarding Provisions, &c., to the Castle, or in any other respect wherein the good of the Service may be concerned.

I recommend it to you to make a small Redoubt at the extremity of the lower part of the Island, so as to Command the mouth of the Colorado River, which will serve you as a place of defence in case of Attack from the Enemy, and cover your Stores, so essential to your own preservation and that of the Castle of St. John's. Lieut. Campbell, an Engineer, went a few days ago to the Castle, and expects to return in a short time; this Gentleman, on your Application, will point out the proper place and form of your Redoubt, and direct you with what material it may be easiest and soonest completed; upon which Service your Negroes may be employed from time to time when not any other more material duty for them, but the Troops composing your Detachment are not to be put to that or any other drudgery except upon the most urgent necessity, and are only to be considered as a Guard over your Stores of Provisions, Boats, &c., &c.; the preservation of the latter so essential a care, that your strictest attention will be required, as there is not a doubt but the Negroes and others will attempt to take them off, if opportunities offer. Capt. Flynn,

one of the Superintendents of Craft, will remain at your Post to direct in that department; and whenever Boats with Provisions, &c., is sent from your Island to the Castle, He or Ensign Cameron of the Royal Bat-teaux Men should be ordered to conduct them, and I shall write to Capt. Dixon to the same purport, that he may order Mr. Fitzgibbon, Deputy in the Craft Department, to take his turn of that duty, for if the Boatmen are not attended by Officers, they will pass you and Desert.

One six pounder with its Carriage Ammunition, &c., will be sent you for your further defence and Security. Should you be apprehensive at any time of an Attack from the Enemy, you will send off immediately all the Provision you can to the Castle, and have Boats prepared for your own Retreat to the same place; but you are not to take that step without good reasons for the same, and nothing but the Evident knowledge of your falling into a superior Enemy's hands will Justify it. You will receive a Cask of Ball Cartridges, of which the greatest care is necessary, not only to keep them dry, but to Air them as often as the weather will permit, to prevent their Spoiling. The Troops sent you from this are complete to 36 Rounds per Man, and the greatest part of their Cartridges should be kept in Store, as by constant use and friction they spoil, though no wet comes to them.

A small Dory with a few trusty hands should be sent once every Week at least to the Harbour, to look out and report to you all extraordinaries; and if anything very material should happen, You will send me Notice of the same by Express to Bluefields. Some of the Shore Negroes know the Route from this to Bluefields by land, and may be sent with an offer of a Reward for their faithfully performing that trust; at the same time Notice must be sent to the Officer Commanding at the Castle.

You will receive some Sugar, Coffee, &c., to be distributed to your Command, as well as the Negroes

employed in the Boats, as an inducement to their good behaviour, and Encouragement for their Exertions in carrying Provisions of Stores with the greater Spirit and good will.

Your attention is likewise required to the Colorado River, and I would recommend it to you to look into it frequently. By going down the St. John's branch a view of the Harbour may be had, perhaps with more ease than that of the usual tract, but this you will be able to form a better judgment of by Enquiry.

I have now, Sir, given you every direction for your Conduct that has occurred to me; but as many circumstances may arise that cannot be foreseen, it is left to you to deviate from them when the Service may require it, and I rely upon your judgement that good reasons will be given for the same.

Stephen Kemble.

St. John's Harbour, Sept. 17th., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of 13th. and 15th. instant. The total dismantling of the Castle and the Obstacles that may arise in replacing the Artillery must lay you under innumerable difficulties; but when an Officer is resolved to do his utmost, and exerts every nerve for the good of his Country—which, I am happy to find, are ideas you fully possess—difficulties vanish, and hardships are made light of. Persevere, my dear Sir, and I doubt not but Credit and honour will be your portion. Preserve, if possible, your Mines Complete; for the Enemy, from Accounts which they probably have received of your situation, may attempt the Castle, and if they knew the present opportunity are fools if they did not Embrace it. But you should be on your guard in your ultimate resolutions, and not think of Abandoning the place too soon, should they Approach, for it is more than probable they may come down without Cannon, upon a supposition you are gone, or will go upon their Ap-

pearance; in that case I know of nothing to be so much dreaded as the destruction of your Huts at the Water side, which you should endeavour to cover in the best manner you are able, and the defence of the Castle an easy task, from any attempts with small Arms only.

Fifty light Horse mount to you in Boats, with a supply of Provision and Stores you are most in need of; these People are composed, I am told, in part of Prisoners under the name of Curacoa Men, but I fear many of them are Spaniards. However, on the Officers' arrival you will be particularly informed, and may in case of Alarm send such of them as you shall think proper to Cooke's Post; at any rate, have an Eye upon those he shall point out, and never let them be placed as Sentinels over your Boats. Gen. Dalling recommends it to me not to employ them upon any Service but in their own line where I can avoid it; but the present is indispensable, though you are not to renew the task but upon the most urgent Occasions, and then with Assurance of your wishes and Inclinations to give them every ease and comfort in your power; in short, soften the Pill and gild it in the best manner you can. Three Months' Provision, of all Species, for two hundred Men is sent, or will be shortly, to Cooke's Post for your Garrison. All the Negroes at this place, amounting to about forty, will be employed in forwarding your Provision to Cooke's, which is to be the place of deposit on my leaving the Harbour, which I propose to do soon, and proceed to Bluefields, in consequence of Orders from Gen. Dalling for that purpose, taking all the Troops and Stores with me I can; and by the first of October I suppose the second division of Vessels and Stores will follow, when you will be left unprotected by a Naval or any other force at this Harbour.

I have left a Detachment of 15 Men under the Command of Capt. Pellet, Jamaica Volunteers, at Cooke's Post, with Capt. Flynn, Superintendent of Craft; Ensign McNight, Legion; Ensign Cameron, Batteaux Corps; and Dr. Cook, of the Jamaica Volun-

teers. Capt. Pellet has orders to Obey your Commands, and is directed to dispatch Capt. Flynn or Ensign Cameron with every division of Craft he may send up; but as this duty will fall hard on these two Gentlemen, you will direct Mr. Fitzgibbon and Mr. Caldwell to take their turn.

The larger Craft should unload at the Creek below the Falls, and return for more Provisions to Cooke's Post, till the whole you are to expect is got up; in the meantime, Pitpans and other small boats should be employed in bringing it to the Castle. When this is completed, you will get up as many large Craft as may be necessary on an Emergency, with such small ones as your Service shall require, and Order the remainder to Cooke's Island, where they will be ready for future Service. Capt. Davis, Jamaica Volunteers, Acting Quarter Master General, is left by me at this place to Embark all Stores and to follow me to Bluefields with the second division. Should you have occasion to make any demands upon the receipt of this, send instantly, and your Letter may possibly catch him before he leaves the Harbour. You talk of things wanting for the Germain, but send no list of them.

Capt. Pellet is directed to dispatch all intelligence of consequence by land, either at your desire or, if anything material should require it, from himself; in the latter case to inform you of the same. As he will be rather weak in Troops, you may send a few of the Light Horse to remain with him, but the number must be small, and is solely left to your discretion to send them or not; they have no Accoutrements, but you may furnish them with Spanish ones, a number of them having been left in the Castle.

You should use all diligence in getting your Provision up, and the moment you have got a few Guns mounted for immediate defence, employ all hands for that purpose; nor should you rely on receiving all Supplies by the Negroes left here, but keep a Pitpan or two always on the River, for fear of delays, mismanage-

ment, &c., &c., &c. All Work must stop when there is danger of Supplies failing.

I shall endeavour to send a Boat to Cooke's about the 25th. October, by which time any Letters you may have should be there, and I request you will send me the fullest Returns of all Stores at your Post, what you may want, and carry other necessary Information, particularly of the State of your Provisions. The Negroes should have a share of Sugar, Coffee, &c., as a reward for their labour.

I am, &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon, St. John's Castle.

(Private.)

St. John's Harbour, 18th. Sept., 1780.

Sir:

Though nothing would give me greater pleasure than to contribute to your relief, especially in the situation you represent your Affairs to be in, still I find myself under a necessity of refusing you leave of Absence; My last Letters from Gen. Dalling are sharp on that subject, and a positive prohibition of granting Officers leave to go to Jamaica in future; Added to which I have not an Officer of your Rank or standing in the Army to replace you, nor do I know any of inferior Rank that could properly be intrusted with so important a Command in the present Situation of Affairs. Should I from motives of friendship, or for any other reasons, give you leave to quit the Castle, and an accident happen, consider the Clamour that would be raised against me. It would be the eternal Source of all future mishaps and the reason assigned for all misfortunes that may happen; for when things have not gone as our leaders wish, the most trivial matter is assigned for the general failure.

Gen. Dalling thinks of nothing but prosecuting his Plan by this or some other River; indeed, I suppose he is so far Embarked that he cannot recede. God

knows I wish him Success, but I dread the Undertaking. Capt. Herbert is come down in Apparent good health; remember you may want Officers, and in times of distress they are the life of your cause; permit no more to leave you but where Evident necessity requires it.

I am, Sir, &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon, St. John's Castle.

Jamaica, 18th. Sept., 1780.

Sir:

Your letters of the 22d., 26th., 28th., 30th., and 31st. of August, with the different enclosures and returns, I have received by the Kingston Packet. The Transports sailed from hence the 5th. Instant, and I much hope have arrived before this period.

After having incorporated the Legion and Batteaux Corps into the Jamaica Volunteers, agreeable to the enclosed orders, I would wish them appropriated to Bluefields and Black River, the latter now repossessed by its Inhabitants after having retired to Rattan, and the Negroes, lately in rebellion, all quieted.

It may be requisite to leave a Captain with a few Regulars at each place, who should have orders to consult with the Superintendent in all matters relative to the safety and defence of that Country under his command, and communicate to him the strength of their force from time to time.

Neither Fortune nor Fate are to be controlled; I moan over our loss, but the having done all in our power ought and will be our consolation.

I am, Sir,
Very faithfully yours,
John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received the 26th. Oct., Enclosing General Orders of 18th. Sept. *Answered.*

(Enclosure.)

General Orders.

Head Quarters, Spanish Town, 18th. Sept., 1780.

The non-commissioned Officers and privates of the Legion and the Corps of Batteaux Men to be drafted into the Jamaica Volunteers, the time for which they were enlisted being punctually adhered to and confirmed.

The Officers belonging to these Corps who have other Commissions and employments, to rejoin their respective Corps or employments ; those that are not so circumstanced are to continue on their pay until an opportunity offers of providing for them, or until the expiration of the Service.

Jeff. Amherst, Aid-de-Camp.

Pelican off Bluefields, 7th. October, 1780.

Sir :

I had the honour to receive your Excellency's two Letters of 26th. August on the 11th. Sept., enclosing a Copy of the Resolutions of the Brigadiers, with Copies of Col. Irving's and Capt. Clark's Instructions. I am extremely happy at the latter's Appointment, with the powers given him to regulate matters relative to the Navigation of the River, and I am persuaded from his Abilities everything in that Line will be much forwarded. He left the Harbour of St. John's for the Castle on the 13th., and expected to return in about ten days, at which he supposed I should have everything prepared to sail for Bluefields ; but the Ship Betsey having sprung a leak, and it being necessary to unload her before she could sail, I ordered the Flora and Sally to be got ready for sea as soon as possible. Embarked the 19th. with the few remaining Troops, agreeable to the enclosed Return, and Sailed the 21st., leaving Capt. Davis acting Quarter Master General to Embark all the remaining

Stores, and follow me as soon as Capt. Haynes returned to take him under Convoy.

It has been my constant rule not to allow any Officer to go to Jamaica except at the recommendation of Mr. Welch or Mr. Dancer, but your Commands shall be punctually obeyed in future. Capt. Dixon has applied to me for leave of absence to settle some Affairs of Consequence, but I have wrote him your Excellency's Approbation must be had before I can comply with his request. I enclose a Copy of his Letter to me of 13th. Sept.

Col. Irving sailed the 15th. Sept. from St. John's Harbour for Bluefields, and promised to prepare everything for the reception of the sick, &c., in the best manner possible, it having been thought advisable to send the whole there; Capt. Parke sailed at the same time in the Hope, but we met at Sea on the 23d., and took her under Convoy; She has since parted Company, being short of Water, and we hope got into Harbour, though I have my doubts.

Three months' Provisions of all Species for Two hundred Men is to be sent to the Castle; the Detachment of Light Horse take part of it, the remainder to be lodged at the Coloradoes till it can be forwarded. This Detachment I was obliged to employ on that Service, as well to strengthen the Garrison as to hunt up a quantity of Provisions for immediate use. I should have preferred sending the Subaltern and Detachment of Loyal Irish Corps, but they are a troublesome set, know nothing of the Management of Boats, and most probably would never have got up.

Capt. Pellet, of the Jamaica Volunteers, I have left to Command at Cooke's Post (Coloradoes), with a Subaltern of the Legion and seventeen Men, as a Guard over the Provision Boats, &c., and to forward all stores to the Castle. He is directed to have the small redoubt constructed as soon as possible, so as to Command the Colorado Branch with a six pounder I have ordered to be sent him for that purpose. The Ne-

groes arrived in the last Convoy are to be employed in carrying up Provision to the Castle as soon as the Stores, &c., are Embarked at the Harbour; and as Capt. Pellet will have a number of these people at his Post from time to time, Three Months' Provision for fifty Men is left with him. Capt. Flynn, of the Craft Department, a Subaltern of the Royal Batteaux Corps, and an Hospital Mate also remain with Capt. Pellet; the two former to be employed in conducting Craft from Port to Port, that the Negroes may not loiter on their way nor run off.

Capt. Paterson, Superintendent of Craft, remains at the Harbour with Capt. Davis to collect and dispose of them in the best manner possible; such as require repair, and are not fit for river use, to be lodged in some private place among the Lagoons, where they may be recovered hereafter and put in order.

Frequent disappointments on my first arrival at the Castle in the Provision I was led to expect, from the inability of Soldiers to Navigate the Craft, as well as the Overturning of a Boat or two, Chagrined me much, and induced me to think Officers had not exerted themselves as they might have done. Enquiry was made, and I would have put any Officer in Arrest I could have laid my hands upon; but Sickness was the Excuse, and the validity of the Plea not to be doubted. As to drunkenness, I did mention it once; but that's the only instance I ever heard of.

The Power given to Col. Polson to hold General Court Martial is confined solely to himself, and any step I might take in that respect would be irregular, and which I might possibly be called to an Account for hereafter.

A Soldier of the Loyal Irish Corps, and one of the Legion, are now in confinement for Theft and Desertion, and I could wish to try them; but I don't know whether I can Assemble a General Court Martial with propriety, even if I had Officers to compose it.

Capt. Clark did not promise himself much Exertion

could be made from the Castle, but he was furnished with a Letter to Capt. Dixon on the Subject, and was satisfied that every Assistance on my part would not be wanting.

I understand from Capt. Haynes that he intends to take the Diamond up at St. John's Harbour, and return with her to Jamaica; we shall then be left without a Ship of War on this Station, and I must observe to Your Excellency the necessity of having one to look into St. John's Harbour now and then, and to Convoy such Vessels as we may have occasion to send there with Provisions, &c., &c.

I enclose you a Return of the Troops, and a Return of Artillery Stores at St. John's Harbour, with a State of the Garrison at the Castle. As soon as the Stores are landed at Bluefields and Assorted, the most exact Returns of the whole shall be sent that is in my power to procure.

I have the honour, &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Bluefields, October 11th., 1780.

Sir:

My Letter of the 7th., which your Excellency will receive with this, informs you that I sailed from St. John's Harbour on the 21st. September, but did not get into this Port till the 8th. instant. In our way up we touched at Corn Island, where I found Capt. Bailey in the Sloop lately from Tebuppy, whom I ordered to take on board the Hospital Stores, with the Gentlemen in whose charge they were, and to follow me to this place with all dispatch. On my arrival here I found Capt. Davis had completed the embarkation of Stores at St. John's Harbour, had sailed the 3d. instant in the Ship Betsey (her leak having been found and stopped), and got here the 6th., where I also found the Brigantine Polly, from which Vessel Capt. Irving

had landed his Stores, and was just setting off for Pearl Key Lagoon. Capt. Davis and the Officer Commanding the Diamond thought it best not to await the Return of Capt. Haynes, as was proposed, the Service they had been left to execute being performed, and the Seamen falling down very fast. The Ship Betsey has now but two Men fit for Service, and the Flora Hospital Ship so reduced by sickness that the Crew could not have brought her into Harbour without assistance.

The Hope is not yet come in, and our anxiety for her safety increases. The Sloop Success unfortunately passed this harbour in the night, as did most of the Diamond's Convoy, and I am mortified at the necessity of informing your Excellency that she is now on Shore upon some of the Keys to Windward, and has all the Powder and some heavy Artillery on board. Capt. Everet, who arrived here a few days ago from Rattan with 52 Negroes, is dispatched with his Vessel to her assistance. The Negroes Capt. Everet brought are a prodigious acquisition, having not a soul to do anything; Capt. Parke, with the Slaves under his direction, being on board the Hope. Capt. Everet acquaints me that he was certain 150 or two hundred Negroes might be got at Black River, provided they were to be commanded and solely directed by Officers of their own election. I think this matter might be managed by Major Laurie, and these men prove of considerable use. The Brigs Polly and Julia are to be unloaded with all haste, and shall proceed to Jamaica as soon as possible. The first will get back within the time agreed for, and the latter, if she arrives safe, will be a load taken off Government. Though no positive directions have been given about sending the Betsey, Flora, and Sally Transports back to Jamaica, it is my intention they shall proceed to Kingston as soon as our weak state will permit us to unload them, as the Worms would destroy their bottoms in a very short time if they remained here. Should your Excellency

be of different Sentiments, your Commands will most probably reach me before they are ready to sail.

The ground upon the Bluff and close to the Anchoring place for Shipping is admirably disposed for an Encampment; it is the Saddle of a Hill, and open to the Sea Breeze, but will only contain one line of Huts. It is at present overgrown with Shrubs, but the Negroes are at work clearing it, and shall, as soon as that is done, be employed in erecting Huts for the Soldiers, who will in the meantime be landed and put under Tent Cloths.

Before Capt. Davis left St. John's all the provisions, Wine, Sugar, &c., intended for the Castle and for Cooke's Post were forwarded, and mostly arrived at the latter place, from whence the Negroes by the Sally, under proper officers, and the Light Dragoons (to be employed only once in this Service) were to carry the proportion allotted to the Castle.

The Weak state of the Garrison at the Castle, as appears by copy of Capt. Dixon's Return of Sept. 20th. enclosed, and the approaching sickly Season will, I am afraid, so far reduce their strength as to render a reinforcement absolutely necessary, as early as possible. The Light Dragoons (many of whom came here almost naked, and were by my orders at the request of their Officer supplied with necessaries by Mr. Shaw, who has got a Bill of Exchange for the same on the Agent to the Corps) will, I fear, be but a trifling addition, as above half of them appear to be Spaniards; and in my present situation I shall with difficulty be able to procure a guard for the Stores, so that no assistance can be sent from hence. I am informed by Dr. Saunderson that of the Sick on board the Flora, 57 have died since their embarkation at St. John's, though every assistance was given them, and Wine, Sugar, Vermicelli, &c., liberally distributed under the eye of the Surgeon. Every effort will be made to supply the Troops with Fresh Beef, Turtle, and Fish; and from the steps I have directed and

empowered Mr. Shaw to take, I have little doubt of their being soon amply supplied, and even a deposit of Cattle made for future occasions, though the prices will be higher than usual from the uncommon demand. Wine, Sugar, Coffee, and Vermicelli shall be distributed to the well and Sick, and every attention in my power paid to the preservation of the remaining few.

By a Letter I received the other day from Messrs. Cairns and Thomson, dated the 28th. Sept., they had then been 3 days at Tebuppy, had landed all their presents in good Order, were to meet the Chief in two days more (some hundreds of the lower Class being then with them), and they seem to be certain of an effectual reconciliation taking place; all they want is some Cash to purchase Fresh Beef for the entertainment of the Indians, and some Articles sent under charge of Capt. Gleadowe in the Sloop Success, and afterwards reshipped in the Sloop Hope, unfortunately not yet arrived. So that my next will, I hope, convey the Accounts of a close being put to this negotiation in the manner you wish.

I am, and have been of late, much indisposed; and Officers are much wanting to carry on the Service. Certainly some of those who went to Jamaica are recovered and ought to return; if not, others, both Captains and Subalterns, should be sent for. Were any accident to happen me, Capt. McDonald of the Jamaica Volunteers would become Commanding Officer at this place, for which Command his inexperience of the Service must render him unfit.

Your Excellency must excuse me from further particulars, as I am obliged to be down with the Fever, and I would not wish to Request Capt. Haynes to delay his departure, as his people are taken sick every hour.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Per His Majesty's Ship Pelican.

Bluefields, 13th. Oct., 1780.

Gentlemen :

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of 10th. and 28th. Sept. In your first, from Pearl Key Lagoon, you acquaint me of your having made a progress in reconciling the Indians in that Neighbourhood, and of your making the Woolwaas friends with the Mosquito Men ; that the former are an acquisition in case of any Excursion being intended up Bluefields or Great River, as they reside upon the borders of the Spanish Towns.

I flatter myself your succeeding Negotiations will be attended with the like fair prospect of a lasting Union and Amity with the Indians in general, and that your unremitting Exertions will be closed with a happy success in all respects, with Credit to yourselves, and to the advantage of his Majesty's Service.

You carried from St. John's Harbour a considerable quantity of Rum, at that time deemed sufficient for your purpose, and I am apprehensive the Commander in Chief will think I have been lavish in granting a further supply ; but as your Consumption has been greater than was expected, from unavoidable circumstances, a small quantity shall be sent you with some flour by Capt. Everet, who will Sail in a short time for your part of the Coast. The Articles you mention to have come from Jamaica in the Success were reshipped on board the Hope for Bluefields ; but she is a missing Ship, has many of our most Valuable Stores on board, and we are put to a thousand Inconveniencies on Account of her absence. As to the late Capt. Gleadowe's funeral expenses, I don't see how they can be brought under the head of a public Charge, nor ought they to have been great. Some money shall be sent you for the Public Expenditure, to enable you to carry on the Service you are engaged in with propriety, and for the uses you mention, at least such part of it as may be necessary ; and what you receive must be duly accounted for.

As you represent to me that Sugar is necessary for the Entertainment of the Indian Chiefs, a Barrel shall be sent you, as also some Beef or Pork.

Your Letter of 28th. from Tebuppy refers to one wrote from Great River, which has never come to hand. I am glad to find the Presents were landed in such good Order, and I sincerely hope your expectations of pacifying the Indians will be fulfilled. When Harry Wilson left St. John's Harbour, I expected to have been at Bluefields by the time he could have got there, and to have wrote you by him; but contrary winds made our passage a most tedious one, and we did not arrive here till the 8th. instant.

I am, Gentlemen, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Messrs. Cairns and Thomson.

Bluefields, 15th. Oct., 1780.

Gentlemen:

I yesterday had the pleasure to receive your Letter of 4th. inst., with the Proceedings of a General Congress, and a joint Letter from the Governor and Gen. Smee.

I am extremely well pleased with the assurances contained in the Proceedings of the Congress of a perfect reconciliation having taken place with the two Tribes that were at St. John's Castle, and I hope that your knowledge of and judicious management of these People, the Amity and good Understanding that has been Established will subsist for a long time, and redound to the advantage of his Majesty's Service. Copies of the Proceedings of the Congress and your Letter shall be transmitted to his Excellency by first opportunity, that he may see the happy Effects of your Negotiations, and I doubt not but the whole will meet with his Approbation.

I have only to observe on the subject of Crafts that Jasper Hills was purchased by Mr. Shaw at St. John's

Harbour, and that he is not entitled to any Payment for her. As to hiring or buying Craft from the Indians, that had better be deferred for the present, though it would be proper to apprise them they will be wanted, that they may have them ready; and I could wish an Account of them were taken, and sent me with the Name or Names of Persons to be applied to to Collect them whenever the Service may require it.

My Letter of 13th. informs you of several Articles that were to be sent by Capt. Everet, some of which you will receive with this. The unfortunate Absence of the Ship Hope deprives us of every necessary article to carry on the Service here. She likewise has on board the few remaining Stores, that might have been applied to purchasing Pitpans, &c.; but that inconvenience is Obviated by the arrival of Col. Irving from Jamaica, with a large Assortment of Presents. He will set off in a few days for the different Settlements on the Shore, and will settle with the Persons you have engaged to build Pitpans for Payment of the same. He will likewise carry Arms, &c., &c., for the Governor and Gen. Smee, to whom I refer them for what they will want to carry on their intended Excursion against the Spanish Settlements.

The Sloop St. John had all our Powder on board, and by some unaccountable accident run on one of the Pearl Keys, where she bulged, and I fear all is lost.

I am, Gentlemen, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Messrs. Cairns and Thomson.

Bluefields, 21st. Oct., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of 23d. Sept. and 4th. inst. Your recommendation of Mr. Lynch would have great weight with me were the Appointment of Master Carpenter vacant; but when Mr. Wright left the Harbour of St. John's for Ja-

maica, a prospect of his recovery was not despaired of, and he may return to his duty; should it happen otherwise, and my good Offices can contribute to his Promotion, I shall be glad to serve him.

You mention the Spaniards having occupied an Island on this side of the Lake, but are not so particular as I could wish, requesting at some time a Copy of Mr. Wright's Journals, which I now enclose you.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Lieut. Despard, Chief Engineer, St. John's Castle.

Bluefields, 21st. Oct., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of 21st. and 23d. Sept. The situation I was in at St. John's Harbour and still am, from the debilitated state of the Troops that were up the River, left me no choice, and I was under a necessity of sending the Light Horse to you, whose Conduct I hope will show they are deserving of a better character than Capt. Clark has given them. Seventeen Recruits of the Loyal Irish came from Jamaica at the same time the Light Horse did, but they were a troublesome set, and the change of climate, as well as their inexperience of the management of Boats, so much against them, that I thought it was most probable they never would get up to the Castle, and if they did, in all likelihood so much reduced as not to be of any use; on the other side, the Light Horse were accustomed to Boats and inured to a Southern climate. I have now given you my reasons for sending them to the Castle, which necessity obliged me to do, and I have only to Repeat the Injunction in my last, that you will be on your guard against them.

In my letter of 17th. Sept. I requested returns of all Stores might be sent me, specifying particularly the quantity of Artillery and Stores remaining, Spanish as

well as English, and what you might want to be sent up; the latter I have received from Mr. Despard, but to get them conveyed to you is a difficulty.

I also mentioned in one of my Letters your giving directions to some of the Return Boats to take the Howitzer Carriage, &c., on Board that was left on a sand Bank in the River. The Carriage that was at the Castle is, I suppose, still there, as I never heard of its being sent to the Harbour. I am much pressed by Gen. Dalling for a Return of all Stores, which I cannot make out till I get yours of every Department.

In your Garrison Returns you should have Columns for Dead, Deserted, &c.; for, although we see your numbers diminish, I am at a loss to know by what means.

I hope you have received your private as well as public Stores, and that your situation is greatly mended for the better. What to do for a Doctor to be sent you I don't know; our Sick decrease by death, but no other way, and we are hardly capable of attending the remainder; never was there so complete a ruin.

I am Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon or Officer Commanding at St. John's Castle.

P. S. A Surgeon's Mate attended the Light Horse. He does not bear the best Moral Character, but thought not to be deficient in his profession, and may be of use to you till another is sent. Mr. Despard mentions the Spaniards having occupied an Island on this side of the Lake, but he is not so particular as I could wish.

The Sloop St. John, having all our powder on board, has been wrecked on the Pearl Keys, in her Passage from the Harbour, and the whole lost except a few Barrels which are damaged. This misfortune puts it out of my Power to supply with that necessary Article immediately as I could wish, and I need not observe to you the necessity of being as careful of what you have as possible.

Bluefields, 22d. Oct., 1780.

Sir:

I am given to understand that some People from the Shore propose going to St. John's Harbour to plunder the different Vessels Sunk there; and, as many Valuable Articles may be saved from them hereafter, I am to desire you will take every precaution in your power to prevent it, and to acquaint me with the Names of all Persons you may discover attempting to pilfer the Wrecks, or taking anything whatever from the Harbour that belongs to the Public.

Returns of the Detachment under your Command should be sent me by every opportunity, acquainting me, at same time, with the quantity of Provisions remaining to be sent to the Castle, and what forwardness your Redoubt is in.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Pellet or Officer Commanding at the Coloradoes.

Bluefields, 26th. Oct., 1780.

Sir:

I am informed that on your arrival at Pearl Key Lagoon from St. John's Harbour you circulated Reports that any of the Inhabitants of the Shore who bring Refreshments for Sale to the Troops at that place would be impressed into the Service, whereby many adventurers were deterred from proceeding with supplies they had Actually engaged for that purpose, to the no small detriment of his Majesty's Service; and reflecting on your Situation at that time, when you most probably conceived yourself an Officer, and holding a Commission in the Army, I cannot but look upon such proceeding in the most Serious light. I think it therefore incumbent on you to disprove these Allegations in the Clearest and most Authentic manner; otherwise I shall look upon it as an indispensable part of my

duty to take such steps as may be highly disagreeable to you.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Potts.

Bluefields, 26th. Oct., 1780.

Sir:

Being informed by Messrs. Cairns and Thomson that you have been empowered by Sir Alexander Leith to employ Indians and others to make Pitpans for the Public Service, with a daily allowance for the same and being desirous to know the conditions upon which you are engaged, as well as to speak to you upon a complaint of Major Laurie's relative to the Records of the Shore, which were, and he still supposes are, in your possession, I am to desire you will therefore repair to Bluefields with all Expedition, bringing such Papers with you as may be necessary to clear up these matters.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Mr. L'Estrange.

Bluefields, 29th. Oct., 1780.

Gentlemen:

Mr. Graham, of 23d. Sept., from great River on the 19th. inst., Capt. Potts being understood to be the Person you refer to having propagated Reports prejudicial to the Service, I have in consequence wrote him on the subject. I am obliged to you for Publishing the Advertisement, a Copy of which you enclose, and I request you will continue to give every Assurance to the People in general on the Shore that neither their Slaves, Craft, or anything whatever belonging to them shall be impressed into the Service, but, on the contrary, that they shall have a free and open Sale for all they bring, and be at liberty to return at their pleasure.

Having no Ship of War on this Station and uncertain when one may arrive, I am induced to adopt your opinion warmly of an attack upon Matina by a number of Indians, which may be productive of good, and I see no Evil to arise from it. You will therefore use your utmost endeavours to persuade them to undertake the Expedition. Arms, Ammunition, and Provisions will be furnished them here; and should you Accomplish this matter, your accompanying the Indians to this place will be necessary.

As it is supposed you had taken as much salt as was necessary for your purpose on your leaving St. John's Harbour, the present demand is unexpected, and the destruction of large quantities by various Accidents, as well as the uncertainty of what may remain, obliges me to defer complying with your request just now.

I am, Gentlemen, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Messrs. Cairns and Thomson.

Bluefields, 31st. Oct., 1780.

Sir:

I had the honour to receive your Excellency's Letter of 18th. Sept. on the 27th. inst. Capt. Muller, the Bearer of it, landed at Monkey Point, under which the Kingston took shelter, not being able to make this Port, and after a tedious March of three days, during excessive bad weather, was lucky enough to get here in good health. It would have been a fortunate circumstance had this Gentleman arrived sooner, Col. Irving having proceeded up Bluefields only two days before to Explore it, and to send your Excellency a Report of his observations by the Brig Polly, which Vessel was, at his request, detained for the purpose, but She will now be dispatched with all Expedition.

Capt. Muller is preparing to follow Col. Irving, and

proposes to proceed as soon as the weather will permit, which has been extremely bad for some days past, and the Waters so much raised by Violent Rains, that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to make head against the Current.

Your Excellency's Orders for Incorporating the Legion and Corps of Batteaux Men into the Jamaica Volunteers has been issued, but I fear little real Strength will accrue to the Volunteers from their acquisition of numbers. In the last Return, transmitted by the Pelican, they were only seventy-five Effectives, some of which have since died here, and we may suppose an equal proportion of those at the Castle. I have ordered the Draft to take place from the 24th. inst., and the Men's Accounts to be made up to that period, being the end of last Muster.

By the enclosed Return your Excellency will perceive I have not Men to send to Black River, the few present in Column fit for duty being scarcely sufficient to furnish the necessary Guards for the protection of the Stores to be landed.

Former Letters express my intentions of sending Troops to Black River, but finding that could not be done on my arrival at the Harbour, I thought the best expedient I could use was to order Capt. Caddle to collect his Company and put himself under the command of Major Laurie, in consequence of which I wrote him a Letter, of which the enclosed is a Copy; but some Anecdotes of that Gentleman's conduct have since come to my knowledge that render him unworthy of holding a Commission in the Service, and the Letter you will receive with this from Major Laurie Corroborate the Charges against him. This Letter I took the liberty of opening, conceiving it might contain matter of public concern necessary for me to know. I also enclose your Excellency a Copy of a Letter I have wrote to Major Laurie, to be forwarded to him in a few days by a Sloop that has brought 30 more Negroes from Rattan.

Having no Ship of War on this Station, and uncertain when one may arrive, I have approved of a proposition made by Messrs. Cairns and Thomson, of employing some of the Indians on an Expedition to Matina. It may divert the Spaniards from making an attempt on Cook's Post, Coloradoes, should they have entertained ideas on that head; at any rate, I can see no bad effects to arise from it. Should you think otherwise, your Commands will reach me time enough to put a stop to it, as I apprehend the Mosquito Men will not choose to stir till the Norths are over.

I dispatched Allen the Pilot immediately on my arrival here, with a quantity of Water, in search of the Hope, but he has not been lucky enough to find her, and I am in great Anxiety for her safety. The Detachment of Loyal Irish, with Capt. Parke, his Negroes and Stores, are on Board of her, as well as many other valuable Stores. Enclosed I likewise send you a Copy of the proceedings of a General Congress held at Tebuppy.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Bluefields, 1st. Nov., 1780.

Sir:

I requested Mr. Shaw to acquaint you that ill health prevented my answering your Letter of 31st. August by the Pelican. I am afraid the Returns you require cannot be procured, from the General Confusion that has prevailed and the want of proper Officers in the several Departments, particularly the Artillery, but such as can be got shall be sent, which will pretty nearly show what is left, exclusive of what is at the Castle; but the deficiency cannot be accounted for with the smallest degree of certainty. When Sir Alex-

ander Leith came to the Harbour of St. John's, I sent him Returns of all Artillery Stores at the Castle, that he might see what we had and what were wanted, happy at the thoughts of having an Officer of his Abilities appointed by his Excellency to direct in that line; but, as fortune would have it, that Gentleman's health never permitted him to look into that part of his duty and make those Arrangements he might have done. These reasons I hope will be sufficient to show that this particular Department has been attended to as much as Situation and Circumstances would permit. Had Mr. Jones, Store keeper of Artillery, remained at the Harbour, as I expected he would have done, perhaps a better account of Stores might have been procured.

Mr. Shaw will answer for himself in the Provision line, and do me the justice to say, that early after my arrival from the Castle, I mentioned to him the necessity of sending a general State to you, which he informed me was impossible from the confusion of Affairs and situation of the Vessels in the Harbour.

The Quarter Master General's Stores I likewise requested Capt. Polson to get a Return of at St. John's Harbour, and take into his Charge, but they were stowed in the holds of Ships indiscriminately and could not be got at. As to Engineers' Stores, there was not any one there to give an account of them, nor do I believe there were any worth mentioning. In short, Sir, I Don't see that more can be done at this time than to give the best Return I possibly can get of what remains, which is in hand, but cannot be executed till the Vessels are unloaded and each Article separated. The slow progress made in that, from the multiplicity of business, will make it a tedious Work, the Negroes having been and still are employed in preparing Huts for the Troops; have been ill myself, and Capt. Rochat till within these few days not able to look into matters, which may have retarded affairs a little, and the absence of the Hope still adds

to our difficulties, many necessary implements being on board of her.

As to Provisions we have been most amply supplied, and the comforts for the Sick and well, such as Coffee, Sugar, &c., &c., in abundance from the time the Hope arrived. I have already expressed my thanks to his Excellency for his Bounty and attention, and our Acknowledgments are also due to you, Sir, on this head.

Enclosed you also have a Return of Artillery Stores wanted for St. John's Castle, a Return of what is there, and a Return of Carpenters' and Smiths' tools at this place and on Board the Hope.

Cartridge Papers is much wanted here; Powder we have little; but of all these necessary Articles no proper Return can be got, from the want of knowledge in the Conductor. In short, except some Officer of Experience in that line is sent down, I don't see that a true State of Stores can ever be got.

Enclosed is the only Return of Artillery Stores I am yet able to procure.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To Hercules Ross, Esq.

(Private.) Bluefields, Nov., 1780.
Supposed about 2d. of the month.

Sir:

Mr. Shaw is much distressed at the idea entertained of his being deficient in issuing Sugar, Coffee, &c., sent by the Hope, and I apprehend I am not free from Calumny on that occasion. The Author of this information, I am apt to think, is Sir Alexander Leith, whose enquiry did not probably extend so far as the Hospital, which ever has been supplied, I am informed, with plenty of Sugar and Wine, and I know of none but his Batteaux Men that were at the Harbour on his Arrival, that were not objects of an Hospital; if there were others, in the name of God why did not Sir Alex-

ander order a distribution to be made, having an Invoice of the whole, and knowing the Motives for which they were sent? It could not be from delicacy, for he distributed the greatest part of the Tobacco sent on that occasion to his meritorious Batteaux Men, whose powers and perseverance were to do wonders. He told me on his arrival at the Castle, I might depend upon having 130 Barrels of Provision: the whole Embarked under his direction, I am credibly informed, did not exceed 66 in his two Divisions of Boats; the whole of his second and one of the first never arrived. Mr. Shaw did not look upon himself at liberty to make a distribution without my knowledge, and wrote to me accordingly; but my return to the Harbour followed so soon after I received his Letter, that nothing could have been done prior to it. My first attention was then paid to the Hospital, and very soon after the Troops were all arrived from the Castle, a distribution took place; perhaps a few days might have elapsed, but then the well and sick were supplied with Turtle. Should anything on this subject have escaped my Memory, Capts. Polson and Bulkeley and Dr. Welch were acting; Any may answer any questions. Had I been Idle enough to have depended upon Sir Alexander's Assurances of supplying me with Provisions, that consequence would have been that I must have abandoned the Castle, leaving a number of Troops to perish, not having Boats sufficient to carry the whole off; and it was by an extraordinary exertion of Capt. Lamb's, whom I sent from the Castle after my return to it for a load of Flour, that the Castle was at last preserved, though I had earnestly recommended it to him (Sir Alexander) long before. I mention these circumstances to show Sir Alexander's want of thought, and his neglect of using the means recommended, and to show you that that Gentleman's conduct in many respects was most extraordinary.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Hercules Ross, Esq.

Bluefields, 4th. Nov., 1780.

Sir:

I acquainted you in my last of 21st. Oct., that most of our Powder was lost in the Sloop St. John; but after drying what was saved, about 30 Barrels proves serviceable, twenty of which I now send you with one hundred and sixty 6 pound round shot. To send Artillery without Ammunition would answer no one; you must therefore do the best you can till more can be sent from Jamaica. I mentioned to you in a former Letter that the Carriages of one or two Guns were left at the falls with some other Articles, and wished they might be brought down by the Return Boats, as well as a Carriage belonging to one of the 52 Inch Brass Howitzers left formerly by the Ulysses Boat on a Sand bank, and known to many that pass up and down the River. The Gin you requested to be sent could not be spared, having no other for the purpose of mounting heavy Guns at this place, and one that was so much out of repair that it would have been of no use; one leg was [Eight pages of Letter Book torn out].

* * * * * *

the first is necessary for the Command of the Corps; the other, the only Officer I have to detach upon any urgent occasion.

The Works of this place go on very slow indeed, owing in a great measure to the want of Proper People to attend the Negroes, nor are there any to be procured. Capt. Rochat's ill-health has been severely felt on this occasion, and my repeated Attacks of the fever has rendered me almost incapable of business of any sort; so much so, that unless I recover shortly I must give up the Command, and request your Excellency's permission to change the Air for my health. In the meantime I shall not fail to do all in my power for the good of the Service, the business of which I find myself much less able to go through than heretofore.

Col. Irving has promised to take the Charge of

Collecting Pitpans, &c., on himself, and is much better able from his knowledge of that business than I am to execute it to advantage. Only one has yet been brought from the Indians in this River, and I fear delays may arise from the want of them should the Service require them in haste. The number of Craft is also much diminished from the loss of several, and the bad order others are in. Your excellency's Commands on these and other Subjects are very necessary, that the most steady and effectual Arrangements may be made. I enclose to Mr. Ross the only Return of Artillery Stores now here that I am able to get from the Conductor, but how far it may be just is not in my power to say. On my arrival here I received a Return from Mr. Despard of Artillery and Ammunition wanting for the Garrison of St. John's Castle, which would have been fortunate had I received it before I left the Harbour, as some Powder might have been saved; but I have supplied them as far as was in my power, and sent twenty Barrels Powder and 160 6-pound round Shot, which was all could be spared. The incapacity of the present Conductor of Artillery, the only Officer in that Department, is such that no true state of Stores can be got, and ill-health renders him at times entirely useless. Had I a person to substitute in his place it should be done, as his conduct on the loss of the Sloop St. John would justify any step I could take; but necessity obliges me to continue him at present. Capt. McGuire's behaviour on the loss of the Sloop also shown in the enclosed Court of Enquiry.

From the State of Affairs in general, your Excellency will perceive that little or no dependence can be had on the quantity of Stores here for future occasions, and that any Troops that may be sent to this Quarter should be provided Amply with all requisites for Service to avoid disappointments.

There is now remaining only nine Barrels of Powder and two Bags, which, with the twenty sent to the Castle, is all that was saved from the St. John. I

mentioned in my Letter by the Pelican, that it was Capt. Everet's opinion some Negroes might be got at Black River. Should your Excellency think proper to give any directions on that head, I apprehend Major Laurie would be able to put your Commands in Execution to the greatest advantage, being on the spot. Those we have here, I understand, are very averse to going up the River St. John's, and I fear would desert if ordered on that Service; and those from Black River, I am of opinion, entertain the same ideas. Enclosed you have a list of some late Appointments. Dr. Keeffe came from Rattan with fifty odd Negroes by desire of the Proprietors, who promised that Government should give him 10 shillings per day for attending them down, which is paid; and being much in want of Surgeon's Mates, I appointed him to the Hospital, but not without being under a necessity of giving him 5 shillings per day to detain him, in order to send him to the Castle. Capt. Dixon having repeatedly wrote for a Surgeon, Mr. Jameson recommended him as a Man of Capacity, and very assiduous in his duty.

Dr. Henderson, Surgeon's Mate in the Hospital, is recommended to me by Mr. Jameson for leave to go to Jamaica on Account of his health. I am sensible, by granting these permissions, I am acting in contradiction to your orders; but what can I do, Sir, when assured it is the only chance for a Man's life?

List of Appointments since 22d. July, 1780.

Mr. Adams appointed an Assistant in the Quarter Master General's Department, at 5*s.* per day, 14th. Sept., 1780; Dr. Cook, Surgeon's Mate in the Hospital, at 5*s.* per day, 18th. Sept., 1780; Dr. Keeffe, Surgeon's Mate in the Hospital, at 5*s.* per day, 10th. Oct. 1780.

I am, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Sent by Kingston Packet, on 22d. Nov.

Jamaica, 8th. November, 1780.

Sir:

You will on receipt of this immediately send an express to Capt. Dixon, or Officer Commanding the Castle of St. John, directing him to Dismantle and blow it up, having previously embarked such of the Artillery, Ammunition, and stores as he can bring away, and to retire with his Garrison to join you at Bluefields, bringing with him the detachment and provisions left at the post on the river.

A detachment of 100 Men from The Troops under your Command with a proportionate number of Officers to be sent to Black River with the same Orders mentioned in my dispatches to you of the 18th. September, and any other directions you may for the good of the service see necessary to give.

After leaving a detachment of the like number under a Captain at Bluefields (where I intend sending Major McDonald to command), with a Sufficiency of Stores, ammunition, and provisions, and such Negroes as may be requisite to complete the necessary defences that you may point out, and having forwarded a sufficient supply of Arms, Ammunition, and provisions with the Detachment to Black River, you are to return to me here, bringing with you the Remainder of the Troops, Stores, Ammunition, &c., and all Officers, to whatever Corps they may belong, excepting such as you may see necessary to leave for carrying on the service at either place.

Should your force not be equal to these Detachments, your own judgment will point out the best manner of executing these orders, and I beg of you to Assure the Officers of the different Corps that I shall take every opportunity of serving them; those of the Regulars will be advanced whenever an occasion presents itself, and such of the Provincial Officers as prefer a Military life will be provided for in the established Regiments of the Army.

Capt. Dixon to return to Jamaica by the first safe conveyance.

I am, Sir,
your most obedient humble Servant,
John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 25th., Enclosing General Orders. *Answered.*

Jamaica, 9th. November, 1780.

Sir:

Capt. Askey of the Schooner Dolphin having agreed to deliver my Dispatches to you only on the express condition that he might not be Detained against his Inclination, I have to request that his desire may be complied with, and I beg of you to thank Capt. Askey on his delivering the dispatches, assuring him of my determination to serve him when in my power.

I am your most obedient Servant,
John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received the 25th. *Answered.*

Loss of the Sloop St. John.

Bluefields, 16th. Nov., 1780.

Proceedings of a Court of Enquiry held this day, By Order of Brig.-Gen. Kemble, In order to Examine into the Conduct of Capt. Michael McGuire, Mr. Conrad Trippell, Conductor of Artillery, And Mr. George Flowers, Acting Master Carpenter, while on Board the Sloop St. John, After her being run on shore on one of the Pearl Keys.

Capt. Macdonald, Jamaica R. Volunteers, President; Lieut. James Fahy, 60th. Regt., Lieut. Dowling, L. I. C., Members.

Mr. Peter Guion, Master of the Sloop St. John,

being called on to inform the Court respecting the Conduct of Capt. McGuire while on Board, Declares that on Friday the 6th. Ulto., when the Sloop run on Shore on one of the Pearl Keys, He was confined to his Bed having a fever, and Continued in that Situation for two days after, But that he was informed by Mr. George Flowers that Capt. McGuire Started the bung of a Puncheon in the Sloop's Hold, and drew off a Considerable quantity of rum from it, which he carried on Shore with him in the Boat; The Sloop being distant from the Main Land about two Leagues. Mr. Guion also says, that, when he understood the Sloop could not be got off, He Desired that the Boat might be employed in Carrying on Shore the Gun Powder and other Stores, And that he received for Answer from the whole on Board, that they would save their own private property first. Accordingly Capt. McGuire and Mr. Trippell, Conductor of Artillery, took the Boat and Carried their own things on Shore. They and the others on Board kept the Boat employed as they thought proper, Until such time as Mr. Smith, the Pilot, applied to Him for her to go up Pearl Key Lagoon, in order to purchase some Fresh Stock for the use of the Sick, Saying that he would not be absent above 16 or 18 Hours. Mr. Guion Consented to Smith's taking the Boat for that time; But in place of returning at the time he mentioned, He was absent and detained the Boat two days and 3 Nights.

Mr. George Flowers, being next examined, Declares that on the first or Second day after the Sloop St. John run on Shore, He Saw Capt. McGuire (His Servant along with him) Start the Bung of a Puncheon in the Sloop's Hold, and Draw off some rum in a Tea Kettle, and that afterward he saw Capt. McGuire's Servant go to the Hold several times with the Tea Kettle, as he supposes to Draw more rum, but cannot say positively if he took any More, or not. Mr. Flowers also says that he went and informed Mr. Guion of Capt. McGuire's drawing the rum.

Mr. Thomas Clemmence, a Private Soldier, was next examined, at the request of Capt. McGuire, Declares that he was present, and saw Capt. McGuire draw off from a Puncheon in the Sloop St. John's Hold as Much Rum as filled his rum Case; And further says that he saw Capt. McGuire's Servant go frequently after that to the same puncheon with the Tea Kettle, and as soon as he pumped it full he carried it to the Steerage, Where a Cask was prepared to receive the Contents. He also adds that he knows the rum was drawn off with the Knowledge of Capt. McGuire, By his own Servant, and Also thinks by his particular Orders. Mr. Joseph Holland, Carpenter, was also examined, and Declares, with the other Evidences, That Capt. McGuire Drew off a Considerable quantity of rum from a puncheon in the Sloop St. John's Hold, While She was on Shore on one of the Pearl Keys, and further says that no person on Board attempted to take or draw any rum until such time as Capt. McGuire Showed the example.

Mr. John Hollandshead, Carpenter, next called before the Court, Declares that he saw Capt. McGuire Draw off from a puncheon on Board the Sloop St. John, when she was on shore on one of the Pearl Keys, As much rum as filled his rum Case, and afterward saw his Servant employed in drawing and carrying more rum from the same puncheon, to the Sloop's Steerage, where he filled a Cask Containing about 20 Gallons, Which cask he soon after saw on the Deck Bunged up. He further declares that Capt. McGuire took the same Cask in the Boat with him and carried it on Shore.

Capt. Michael McGuire, being called on to answer to the Charge against him, Acknowledges that He took as much rum out of a puncheon as fitted 11 bottles in his rum Case, But says he did not fill any Cask. He also confesses, that, when he had drawn some rum himself, He desired the rest of the people on board to draw some also for their own use. He also adds that when he took the Rum he did not mean it as a Theft.

Mr. George Flowers, Carpenter; Capt. Michael McGuire; and Mr. Thomas Clemmence, a private soldier—All and each of them, being examined separately, Agrees and declares that Mr. Conrad Trippell, Conductor of Artillery, was very negligent and Averse to any of the Gun Powder being taken up out of the Magazine or after Hold of the Sloop St. John, after she run on Shore on the Pearl Keys. Otherwise they are all and each of them of opinion that most of the Powder on Board would have been saved.

Capt. McGuire and Thomas Clemmence further declares that when they were employed about taking up the Powder, in order to save it, that they were prevented by Mr. Trippell, by his insisting and swearing that no more should be brought up; They at that time had handed up 8 or 10 Barrels and put them in the steerage.

Mr. Joseph Holland, Carpenter, Declares That Capt. McGuire, Mr. George Flowers, and Mr. Thomas Clemmence, with their servants, Saved or took up from the Sloop St. John's Magazine and after Hold 12 or 13 Barrels of Powder, And that if Mr. Trippell had not prevented them, He is of opinion that they would have saved the most if not the whole That was on Board, The Sloop not having above 3 or 4 feet Water in her Hold when they began to take up the powder. Mr. Holland further Declares That He heard Mr. Trippell say that he had no business with the Powder, And that he was only a passenger on Board. The other Evidences Declares the same.

Mr. Conrad Trippell, Conductor of Artillery, Being Called before the Court To answer to the Charge against him, admits That he gave no assistance in Saving any of the Powder, as he was of Opinion it was very Dangerous to have any of it Brought on Deck or Stowed in the Steerage; He allows that a great deal of powder might have been Stowed in the Cabin, But that a Candle was always Burning there at

Night; He being asked if it was Necessary that a Candle should be kept burning There, He answered that he did not think it was; He also acknowledges that he thought he had no business or Charge of the Powder or Stores while on Board.

The Court is of opinion, From the Declarations of the Several Evidences examined before them, That Mr. George Flowers, Acting Master Carpenter, Did not behave with any impropriety or Misconduct while he was on board the Sloop St. John during his passage from St. John's Harbour until the time he arrived here in the Sloop Pitt, Capt. Joseph Everitt.

(Signed) Wm. Macdonald, President,
Capt. Jamaica R. Volunteers.

Blewfealds October the 23 1780.

On Munday october the 9 Waid anchor and made the Best of my Way for the Pereall Keays By order of Gennerall Cambell To save the Powder Gunes and matereals On Bord the Sloop Saint Johnes then Caste away on a Reaff.

On Tusday the 10 at about one a clock Came to anchor at the Pereall Keays about hafe a mill from the said Sloop I ameadeatly hoisted out my Boat and went on Bord the said Sloop Whar I found the Captain one Sailor and A man a black Smith all of Whom was very Sick, a malata man & his Wiffe in Tollerable good health Whom informed mee the mate and Pillot with the Saillers and Carpenters with Capt. Magewier and the Deretter of the artillery Stors wor all Gon on Shor on the main Land and that the Pillot Carpenters, & Saillers had Gon with the Boat to Pereall Keay Leagoun the Day Befor and Did not Return for To Days and Three Nights I ameadeatley Sate all my Peapell to Geat all the Powder on Deck the Sloop was allmost full of watter Which was ondly Twenty Nin Barrels 1 Bagg and fower small Caggs with all the meaterals Belong to the artillery I Pose-

able Could But Not Being able to way The Twenty fower Pounders as my sloop would Not be abble To Cum Ny the Rack and my Boat Could not Carrey them I made the Best of my way Back to Blewfealdes on Sunday morning arRived at Blewfealds and Discharged The Greatest Part of the Stores out of the Rack.

I made aplycation to Gennerall Cambell for along Boat Blocks and foll which wass Gote and the Boat Disspachd This Eavening and arived on monday Ten aclock, at the said Sloop Sant John On Wenday the 18 october Waid anchor at Blewfeald and Returned to the Rack and on Thursday morning 10 aclock arived at the Rack Whar I found the Said Sloop had Shifted hur Starn Round from The S.W. to the N.W. and in much Deaper Watter and Gowing To pieces fast I sounded and found a channell throu the Reaff and at fower a clock Got my Sloop in to anchor on the Inside of the Reaff as the weather Lucked very Squally and the Sea Began to Rise I Imployed Everey Bodey ameadeatly to Geat The Gunes But the Rack Breacking to pieces so fast and the Sea Rising Render it imposable.

I Got up the Purtch and hoisted one of the Twenty fower Pounders up as high as the Comings of the main haches and was ablige to Lower it Doun again ameadeatly for fear of the mast falling and Staving the Long Boat and Killing the Men InDevered to Save all the small Stors I Could But the Gale in Creasing and at Fower aclock The Sloop Sant Johns mast feall overbord and Brock the Brod Sid of the Slogs out which Rendered it Impossble To Geat the Guns the Winds Blowing hard and a high Sea on Satterday moring about six aclock waid anchor and Run Back to Blewfealds wheor I arived about Tou in the after Noon with the Carriages for The Twenty fower pounder and Sundra outher artillery Stors

Joseph Everett
on Bord the Sloop Pitt

A Deposion of the Casting Away the Shallop St John

On the 1st of October I want On bord Cap Maguir Immeadilly tould mee that as the Captain was Sick hee was Comanding Officer On bord and Ordered the 2 Carpenters Negroes to ye Pumps before our things wass Got ought of ye Boat the Vessell Leacked Very Much and had I Believe 20 Inch or 2 feet Water in her Hould on the 3rd wee sailed for Blufelds under Convoy of ye Dimand nothing Meterell Hapned till the 5th the Vessell Very Leackey the Seamen all Sick not Abell to Stand to ye Pumps the Seamen that wass well Refusd the Captain to Pump or Do Any thing and Abusd him with Ill Languige the Carpenters all being in the Hould wich wass the Place Aloted them to Sleep Myself Very Sick with the Feavear the Captain of the Sloop Came to us and Asked iff wee Would go to ye Pumps and undertack to keep her Clear the Answer Was to let all the Negros first pump that 2 Negros was kept to cook for the Cabin and not Pump At All that thay would Pump iff Cap Maguir Mr. Trebell and thos 2 Negros would assist them towards the Afternoon found the Leack Incress Very fast wee Sounded the Pump found 3 feet Water in her Hould we found wee Could not keep her cler with both pumps the Captain Orderd A Signall of Distress in Order to Hail the Man of War Abought 3 of the Clock Spock the Man of War and tould the Captain that the Sloop made 12 or 14 Inches of Water An hour the Man of War Answer Was to Stand on till wee came Along Shor and come to An Ancor wich Order being Obayed the Capt. Ordred the Seamen to put A Nother Cable to ye Ancor the Seamen being Sickly and backward in doing it the Pilet tould them iff thay did not mack much moor hast thay must Put Abought or thay would bee Aground Imeaditly Shee Struck Holondshead being at the Helm the Capt. ordred the Ancor to bee let gon and her Sails all Standing the flook of the Ancor Stuck in her bottom made her Leack Moor

as wee Sopose it made a hole in her bottom the Pilet ordred all her Sails down but half her Mainsail Shee got off—Again Shee got into 4 or 5 Fathom the Pilet tould us to Stand on A little farther that ther was Depper Water the Semen was Getting ye other Ancor Ready but befor it was Ready Shee Struck Again All hands Assisted to get her off the Pilet odred the Mainsail to Stay up that Shee would go off at High water at 3 of ye Clock All hands to ye Pumps but Capt. Maguir but found it to no Purpose at Daylight the Capt. Sent the Boat to ye Julia for Assistance Capt. Grigs Answar was that he could give noon he wass going to get under Way Directly that the Capt and all Hands was Welcom to come on bord but Could not tack any of the Stors on bord him the Capt Had Porposd to tack the hartist of ye Seamen with the Boat and go on bord the Julia Capt. Maguir Ascked all of uss what wass best to bee don, in his Opinion the Capt. ought not to send the Boat for fear of her not returning that ye Capt ought to Stay by the Vessell till the Last wich was the Opinion of the whole on bord wee then Concluded to go On Shor the Mate and all the Sick went first with Provisions in the Boat in the Evening the Boat Returnd Again. being in ye Hould getting ought the Carpenters Tooles I Saw Capt. Maguir with his Negro boy at a Barrell of Rum belonging to Kent Carpenter being tould it was Kents Rum he Put it in ye Cask Again he then went to a Punchin knocked ought the bung and Pumpd Rum he tould mee I had better Draw som to, I did not, the next Day I tould the Capt of it he said Capt Maguir Did very Rong to brock ye Punchin the next day I saw ye Punchin with ye Bung ought I tould the Capt of it he tould mee as wee had not Dran Anny Rum Since wee had been on bord I had better tack som I did So did Clemence the Seamen I belive toock Agreat Deal on Shor and I found thay toock some Powder Capt. Maguir and Myself was Saving some Gunpowder wee got ought Severall Casks

Could have got ought many moor but the Capt. thought it Daingrous as Long as thay made Fire to have in ye Cabin or Storage whar wee Put what we got ought I did not go on Shor till 3 or 4 Day After being Cast Away nor the Capt. wee went on Shor together the Pilot Aplid to ye Capt for ye Boat to go to ye Lagoon Said it wass but 6 Miles and that wee could go and come in a Day wee went but found it 3 time the Distance insted of one Day it toock us 3 Days with a great Deal of troubell and Fateage

George Flowers,
Master Carpenter

A Gournall of the most Meterial Transactions on Board the Sloop St. Johns from the time of her Sailing from St. Johns Harbour till Such time as we imbarkd on Board Capt. Everits Sloop.

Octbr. 3d. Sailed from St. Johns Harbour with moderate Breezes from the Land till on the — when the wind freshened. and we found our wessell begun to make more water than she did some days before, on which Capt. goine Spoke to the Carpenters to know if they would go to the Pomps and undertake it themselves to keep her Cleare, the Question being put to the Carpenters only, they thought it Some what hard that they Should be Compelld to go to Pumps when two Negroes were Constenly imploy'd Cooking and never Calld on to take their Spell. the Stoutest Negroes belongs to Capt. McGuire. the other had been on Board the Sloop Some time before, but Know not whoes Property he is, this the Carpenter took into Consideration, and returned for answer that they would not undertak to keep her free unless all Hands on Board that was able would turne out and give theyr Assistence this however was not Complyd with in consequence of wich they refused going to the Pumps till such time as they themselves Soundid and found a Rail Necessity to go to the Pumps wich they then did, (this was after the

Sloop Struck,) in the afternoon we made Signals of Distress on wich the man-of war Came a Longside and Demanded the Reason for our making Signalls when the Capt. goine was informed by Capt. McGuire that we had Sprung a Leake and Could not keep her free. but I believe the Manofwar Could not heare us; from his macking Signall for us to Stand after him wich we did. and when we Came alongside we made him acquainted with our distress. he Desired we Should Stand till we Came in Smooth water and Come to an ancor, We Stood on for Some time longer and then the Pilot Came upon Deck and desired the anchor might be got ready to be let go, Capt. goine then ordered an nother Cable to be bent wich tookt up much time, most all the Seamen being Sick and not able for duty Except two. the Pilot Seeing the two Seamen to be a Long time about bending the Cable desired they would be Brisk or they would be oblegd to put about acquainting them that the water begun to Shoal fast and the Sloop whent at the rate of four or five Knotts an hour which would Certainly run us on Shoal the Lead was hove and found but little more water than the Sloop drew. however we Stood on a Little longer expeckting we might have water till Such time As the Cable was bent,—She then Struck and went of again. Capt goine then let go the Ancor with all Standing or with out ever heaving her in the Wind (wich is very un common) she Struck on the flooke of the ancor as we immagind and belged from thee Quantity of Water She made, being under Such Way she parted her Cable by wich meanes we lost the ancor her mainsail then was half Settled but her Gibb Stainding the Pilot was then at the Helm. but was not able to Keep it in his Hands owing to her thumping and weekniss together, one of the Carpenters (Hollingshead) offered the Pilot his assistence the Pilot gave him the Helm and desired him when the Sea rose to try if he Could ware her as it was unposible to bring her Head to the

wind we found the Bottom to be an Easy sendy Bottom that gave us some hopes that she would not founder and that she might be got of when the Tide rose, wich the Pilot informed us would rise 18 or 20 Inches about 12 oClock we continued Pumping all night, and till about 10 O'Clock next morning, by Daylight Capt. goine sent his Boat on Board the Julia to Know if Shee Could give us any assistence but Capt. Grigs answar was that all but 2 or 3 of his Hands where Sick and that he Should be under way in a Quarter of an hour. at the Boats returne we found we Could git no assistence and the Water gaining 10 or 12 Inchis on us an hour. and the People fitegued we desisted Pumping, and in a few hours she fild. even to the Waters adg, the Boats was Loadid with such things as where most Handy to Come at, and sent on shoar which was about two Legues distant, in the meantime Capt. goine intendid taking the Boats and go on Board the Julia which the Seamen thought a Conveaiant appertunity of geting Cleare of the Sloop, and that they who went on Board the Julia would not Return with the Boat, this was overheard by some one on Board and Communicatid to the rest, it was then determined that the Capt. goine Should stay on Board for feare we Should be left without a Boat this day the Boat made two trips a Shore, on Second morning we sent more of such matter as Could be Come at on Shore, the Morning—Capt. McGuire went with his Servant into the Hold and startid the Bung from a Cask of Rum Private Property belonging to Alexr. Cante Carpenter. and Drew one or two flask Bottles out till he was made acquaintid who it belongd too he then went To a Punchon of Rum (Kings Property) and filed his Case from that, and put some into a Cask but how much I know not and sent on Shore. —I am very much induced to beleive that Capt goine Know nothing of his taking the Rum. for had he the Capt goine Leive he would not have gone in so Private a manner about it, his Case and Cask was Car-

ried forward and the Rum was Carried up the fore Scuttle in an Iron Tea Kittle as though it was Water.

George Flowers likewise got some of the same Rum, but I understand that he had the Capt goine Leive to take it as their Rations, they drew none all the time they were on Board, after all such matters as the Boat was able to carry were got on Shore the Pilot and the Carpenters and two of Seamen askid the Capt goins Lieve for the Boat to go up to the Ligan in order to Get fresh Stock and to Return nex day, the Pilot informd them that it was only Seven Miles but it proved three times Seven that Distance which detained them much longer then they inmagind for. during their abcence Capt. Everit Came to our assistence and took some Boat loads from the rack on Board his own Sloop; and when our Boat returnd from the Liguan we had our Cheast & Beding & Carried on Board, during the time of our stay on Shore a Negroes Man named Bob Abcented himself and did not mak his appierence till I saw him at this Place. Two of the Seamen Likweis refused Going on Board with Capt. Everit but are Sence Come to Blewfields, I Know of nothing meterial that happend till we arrived hiere.

Conrad Trippell,
Conductor of Artillery.

An exact acct. of ye Transactions on board the Sloop St. Johns bound for B fields &c.

Sailed from St. Johns Harbour Obr. 2 1780 for B fields with only three white Sailors fit for duty and 2 black ditto, as the Capt. told me. Soon as the Sloop got under way She began making more water than usuall, the Capt fell Sick and likewise the mate Pilot Seemed in Good health the first & 2nd day but Complained the third morning of being very Sick the Sailors at this time being tired from pumping Began

to grow Careless in their duty &c. the Capt. Spoke to them Several time in part of their duty Which the Rejected, & Grumbled affronted him several time the Sick and the Well together. on the Capt. finding ye Sailors gained their own way he applyed to me to begg ye Carpenter to Come to ye pump. I ansrd him and told him as he Says that George Flowers & ye Carpenters would not be ordered or Commanded by me in the begining, by Saying they did not look on me to have any Commd over them or the Ship that they would do nothing for what I Said &c. &c. &c.

He was best go and speak to them himself to which he agreed went & Requestd but all in Vain ye [Carpenters] or George Flowers for them Said that they did not Come there to be Sailors and that they would not pump till Capt MacGuire & Mr. Tripple pumped &c. that they had no more Right &c., the Capt. Returnd to me told me this answer where upon I called Mr. Tripple with me to the pump who joined me directly all the Time this Ship made water about 12 or 13 Inches pr. Hour, however I Summoned all the Negroes with the three Whites and one Clements together by which means we Sucked her. I orderd the black boys a Drachm apiece Coaxed them to Continue on, The Ship Diamond Whove in Sight for which we made a Signal of Distress. She bore down upon us till within Gun Shot when they altered their course to speak with ye Brig Julia after which he backed his top Sails and in along time after wards he Came Within hailing of us which the Capt. began to answer and make his Distress known to him, & to Desire he would Send four men and an Officer on board to Cary ye Sloop Safe to port. I told the Capt. of the Diamond of our Distress &c. where upon he demanded me to put about and follow him I begd the Sailors to put about, to this Condition the three men Could not do it, or would not & Nobody els would lend them a hand Clements excepted however we Got Round and followed him. But about

4 oClock Came up to him & Repeated our Distress and wants over again to him where upon he ordered me to keep my Wind & Run clos on Shore & then Anchor to which we agreed the Poilet being all this time hung on the deck and lissning to the Capt. of the Diamond & me. We Cept on to about Sun Set when She ran as the Sailors Said on a Soft bottom Ground and in less than an hour She passed that and Got fast on a harder bottom—the Brig Julia Seeing this who was a mile or more to Windward of us Came to Directly to whom We sent our boat to get Some Relief. The answer he Sent was that he'd receive the people but no part of their property, &c, where upon all hands Desired to go on, to which the Capt. Consented but as Soon as We Got a Ground we hoisted a light and fired Muskets all Night to no purpose the Capt. wanted to go on board the Brig but all hands Denied him the boat fearing the Consequences of Wanting one. the Capt. Said if a Strong Sea breese Set in that the Vessel Would Go to pieces. this made the people all uneasy for the Shore every man looking on the Sloop Wreck at onced in Consequence of that they Caried on Shore Pork & flour Rum Sails Yards &c.

The Capt. took a Case of the Rum as likewise I took a Case to Go on Shore, not With Minding my having a Cag of Rum of My own, as looking on the Sloop from what ye Capt. & poilet Said that every thing as to Rum & Provision would fall to the Musqito Men as a Wreck. After we landed, George Flour, Holenshead, holland and Kent all Carpenters. With the Smith the Poilet, Bradshaw ye Sailor. & a black boy with a large hump on his Cheek, took ye Boat loaded her with Severl Cags and Cases a large Cask, and all Rum Muskets and a cag of Powder, and I heard a bag of powder allso with this article We sat out for Peril Quay lagoon where Stayed three night & two days, and never lived better in their lives as they Sayed on thier Return, at which time of thier Return they brought 2 large Conoes with Musketo men who

Brought limes & Plantin some of which I bought for Cash on the Same evening or night. Bradshaw the fore mentioned Sailor, went off with a large Cag of Rum. Several ps. of pork and a bag of flour in Company with the black boy before mentioned.

As to the Gun powder. I spoke and ordered Mr. Tripple several times to see and Get up on deck as much as possible and every time I spoke he affrontd me and told me that he was but a Passenger in the Sloop and that the Powder may Go to hell adding that I had more Right to look after it than he, & saying that he had done duty enough Where upon I called Clements, George Flours With his Boy and I went in the Hoult with my own Boy and then out Got a bout twenty bags large and Small in Good order and would More did not Mr. Tripple on Deck make Such a Noise and Swore that no more Should come on Deck from there may Several Casks more to be got out Were it not for this Mr. Tripple Who Would not lend a hand to a Single Cask of it. likewise George Flours and his boy behaved themselves very Well they Joined me and my Boy in Geting off the Scuttle in Cabin out of Which Hatch I Got Several Casks & Cartridge Paper not Damaged during which time and Action Mr. Tripple Remained on Deck.

M. MacGuire,
Capt. R. B. V.

Upon the third Octr. Current Sailed from St. Johns Harbour upon the Spanish Main, The Sloop St. Juan whereof I was Master, Bound for Blewfields, in Company with the Diamond Frigate Commanded by Lieut. Jordan (being our Convoy) the Ship Betsy of London Thomas Dobbins Master, and the Brigantine Julia, William Grigg Master, During all that Day being Wednesday, and all Day thursday, till in Company with the fleet, until at Night, when we lost Company with them, all but the Julia Brig on friday

the Sixth, at two oClock past Meridian the Diamond came in Sight, Upon discovering her, I hoisted A signal of Distress, our Vessel then makeing Afast Water per hour, (The Carpenters on Board Refuseing to pump) at four oClock, the Diamond Spoak us, upon which I Requested of the Commander to send me four hands, with an officer on Board, to Assist, in bringing the Vessel Unto Blewfields, I and Eight of my people being then in bad health, he refused Sending me any, but ordered me to back in Shore and follow him, which I comply'd with, at five OClock, the Diamond Tack'd, and order'd me to Continue my Coarse in Shore, and come to Anchor, I then not able to come upon Deck, being so exceeding ill, but haveing Thomas Smith upon Deck, who was our Pylot, he run her Unto foul ground, let go the Anchor which parted the Cable, and then She Drove upon a Spitt of Rocks that lay right A Stern, then we hoisted alight fired Muskets, as a Signal of Distress, but to no purpose The Carpenters that formerly Refused to come to the pump, then very readily came, but then too late. The Boat was hoisted out, and some hands went in her, on Board of the Julia Brig for Asistance, but the people on Board the Brig were so sickly, that no assistance could be Afforded from her, Upon the return of the Boat, Smith the Pylot, and the people that were Sick on Board, put their things into the Boat and went on Shoar, and there detained her for the Whole Day, The Day following Capt. McQuair And Mr. Triple Conductor of artillery went on Shore with the Boat (I then being Delirious) I was inform'd by Flowers the Carpenter and others that prior to Capt. McQuairs going on Shore that he started the Bung out of a Puncheon Rum, and had taken a considerable quantity out of it, and Carried it on Shore with him; Smith the Pylot with some of the people went up pearl Key Lagoon, in the Boat, in order to purchase some Fresh Stock, for the Sick, that were on Board the Vessel I consented to his going as

he told me, he would not be away above Sixteen or Eighteen hours, but in place of returning in that time, he Keept the Boat away two Days and three Nights. Clements the Carpenter behaved very well upon the passage. What is wrote on the above and preceeding page I Declare to be the Truth as Witness my hand this 25th Day of October 1780.

Peter Guion.

Witness : Wm. Macdonald, Capt. Jamaica R. Vols.
Peter Galbreath, Deputy Agent of Transports.

Bluefields, 19th. Nov., 1780.

Sir :

It was my intention to have wrote you by the Pelican, but ill health then prevented me, and I have had repeated attacks of the Fever since, but I hope I am now on the recovery. Mr. Muller returned to us Yesterday after an Absence of 8 or 9 days ; has been prevented from pursuing his Plan of proceeding to the Enemy's Settlements, by the Spaniards taking the Alarm ; but of all these matters he will be able to inform you more particularly than I can. I refer to him for an Account of my situation at this place, and the resources of Refreshments it affords.

You will see by the Returns the debilitated state of the few remaining Troops under my Command, and I may Venture to say there is not three Officers or ten Men here that will be able to Act with any body of Troops that may be sent down on future Service. As to the River St. John's, I have given my opinion on the Subject of proceeding by that route, and I must leave it to my Superiors to form what Plans they think proper. Either to Support the Garrison at the Castle or abandon it, is in my opinion absolutely necessary, for it cannot be supposed that the Spaniards will remain quiet after the good Weather takes place, and could wish some decisive plan was adopted relative to it.

I hope that you enjoy your health, and I sincerely pray that all health and success may attend Gen. Dalling, yourself, or any other Officer who may Command Troops in this quarter.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To Brig.-Gen. Garth.

Bluefields, 20th. Nov., 1780.

Sir:

I proposed sending my Letters of 31st. Oct. and 15th. Nov. by the Brig Polly, Capt. Etcheson, who sailed Yesterday; but Mr. Muller's return from his Expedition up the River, and the Kingston from St. John's Harbour, has induced me to send all Letters by her as the properest conveyance.

Your Excellency will learn not only from Mr. Muller, but it seems to be Col. Irving's opinion, that it is impossible to act up Bluefields River, except with a Body of light Troops and Indians, as a diversion to favour operations of consequence in another quarter; but as these Gentlemen are better able to satisfy you on this subject than I am, I shall decline saying more on it. Capt. Davis is returned from St. John's Harbour, in the Kingston, without being able to execute any part of the Business I had entrusted him with, as the Ship Hope was not there. There seems to be a fatality attending that Vessel; but as she was well supplied with Water and everything necessary for the Subsistence of the People on board, I do not despair of her safety.

By the enclosed Copy of a Letter from Capt. Dixon Your Excellency will see that all was well at the Castle on 24th. Oct., but their Supplies of Provisions and other Stores were much damaged on the way up, owing to the badness of the Weather in part, and irregularities of Mr. Orton's Detachment, the particulars of which are mentioned in Capt. Dixon's letter.

When Capt. Davis left the harbour of St. John's, the Waters in the River were then above six feet higher than when I left it, and so rapid that no boat could proceed. Lieut. McKenzie and Mr. Keeffe, Surgeon's Mate in the Hospital, were left there with two Boats to make the best of their way up as soon as the Current would permit them.

Though Capt. Dixon's Garrison is now stronger than it has been for some time past, yet I cannot help having my apprehensions for that Post in case of an Attack from the Enemy, which I can hardly suppose the Spaniards will delay upon the first prospect of fair Weather being set in. By the enclosed Return your Excellency will see that it is not in my power to send them any relief, the few Men fit for duty here being no better than Convalescents, and scarcely sufficient to guard the Stores, Boats, etc.; a guard over the latter being absolutely necessary, one having been stole a few Nights ago by a number of Negroes, and carried off. Enclosed you have a Letter from the Indians' Governor and Gen. Smee, in which you will see they desire Mr. Cairns to Command them on their intended Expedition against the Spaniards; but as I do not think myself authorized to comply with their request without your Excellency's approbation, I have acquainted them that I would write to you upon it, and request your orders on the subject. I also enclose a Copy of a Letter from Mr. Despard, wherein he acquaints me but imperfectly of the Spaniards having taken Post upon an Island in the River. I have wrote to him and Capt. Dixon to be more particular in their Accounts of these matters. An attack upon this place from the Spaniards is perhaps not much to be apprehended, but it is necessary for me to observe to your Excellency that little opposition could be made by the Troops at present here. The Soldiers' Huts are not yet in great forwardness, and when we shall be able to commence working on the Redoubts I don't know. Entrenching Tools are wanted, Capt.

Park having most of those he brought down with him in the Hope.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Bluefields, 20th. Nov., 1780.

Sir:

Ill health prevented my answering your Letter of 31st. Aug. before. Long prior to the receipt of it, Don Pedro Brezzio had sailed for Jamaica in the Monarch. I did touch upon the subject his Excellency recommends with that Gentleman; but whether it was want of knowledge of the French Language, or whether he designedly avoided the topic, I don't know, but I could draw no favourable conclusion from our Conversation, and the affair dropped there. He is now within reach and may be sounded to more purpose.

Two days ago I received your Letter relative to giving Mr. Craskill leave to go to Jamaica, which shall be properly attended to.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Edward Barry, Esq.

(Private.) Bluefields, 24th. Nov., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of 25th. October and 2d. instant. I find a scarcity of Stock has already taken place with us, and though I declined troubling you in a former Letter on that head, I am now to request your Assistance, and when a good opportunity offers to send me a small supply of poultry. I am informed the Goats are dead, and I fear some foul play, as these are animals that live at little expense and thrive in this Country.

As to your enquiry when Gen. Dalling may be

expected, I am as much at a loss to know as you can be. I am, Sir, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Mr. Colvil Cairns, at Tebuppy.

Bluefields, 26th. Nov., 1780.

Sir:

I Yesterday received a Letter from his Excellency Gen. Dalling of 8th. inst., in which he Commands me to send an Express immediately to you directing you to dismantle and blow up the Castle at St. John's, previously embarking such of the Artillery, Ammunition, and Stores as you can bring away ; to retire with your Garrison and join me at Bluefields, bringing with you the Detachment and Provisions you will find with Capt. Pellet at the Coloradoes.

You will therefore take the most speedy and Effectual steps to put his Excellency's orders in Execution ; and after having Embarked such Artillery, Ammunition, and Stores as you may think worth bringing away, you will blow up the Castle and retire to the Harbour of St. John's, where Vessels will be in readiness to receive your Stores and Troops, with those from the Coloradoes, and convey them to this place.

You will be particularly attentive to your Mines, that a complete destruction of the Castle may take place, and I rely on Mr. Despard's knowledge that a total and Effectual demolition of the Castle of St. John's may be put in Execution from Mines judicially constructed under his direction. This is a matter that requires your most serious consideration, and every possible attention should be paid to it. As it is most probable, from the great rise of Water in the River, that the Germain will not find a difficulty in passing the Falls, She may be of considerable use to you, and I have not a doubt will be disposed of to the most advantage. Should you find it practicable with your other affairs, and can do it with propriety, I would have you send a party immediately on the

receipt of this to the Spanish Post to endeavour to take a Prisoner, and ascertain the Ground from the River round the Post to the Lake, whether it is hard or Swampy, and whether any risings or Hills where Troops may Establish themselves and make Approaches to it. If this Scheme is put in train at all, it must be conducted by a Person of knowledge and whose veracity may be implicitly relied upon. All other Information in your power to procure will be acceptable.

I write to Capt. Pellet to send you Craft if necessary, but I hope you will not be detained for want of them. At any rate, he had better push a few up at a risk; they may be of use. He is not made acquainted with your Orders for quitting the Castle, but to obey such directions as he shall receive from you. It will be proper to declare your intentions of quitting the Castle as soon as things are in forwardness, as it will stimulate the Soldiers and others to go through their work with cheerfulness when they know they are to come down and quit St. John's River altogether.

The most particular attention should be paid to your Craft, that they may be kept in the best order possible, as it will be necessary to bring them to this place; and the distance necessary for them to keep from the land at times, in their passage from the Harbour to this, require their being in good order. All that need repair should be sent to St. John's Harbour first, with such Carpenters as you can spare to refit them. Capt. Flynn knows where those are that were left in a Lagoon near the Harbour, and should be directed to take a particular Account of the whole, how disposed of, and whether good, bad, or indifferent.

Your Letter of 24th. October has been received, but as these new Arrangements are to be put in immediate Execution, it requires no particular Answer.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon or Officer Commanding
at St. John's Castle.

Bluefields, 26th. Nov., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of 10th. instant, as well as your Returns from Capt. Macdonald, and am sorry to find the Provisions are in such bad order. The Stores of all sorts sent by Mr. Orton, of the Light Horse, were received in very bad condition at the Castle. Immediately on receipt of this, you are to forward all light Craft and Pitpans to the Castle, to enable the Officer Commanding to bring off the Stores, as I think it most probable, considering the Situation of Affairs, he will be obliged to abandon it, discretionary Orders being sent him for that purpose. You are instantly on receipt of this to forward the bearer, Capt. Todd, with my dispatches to the Officer Commanding at the Castle; sending Capt. Flynn or Mr. Cameron with him to stop all empty Boats they may meet with on the way down, and carry them back to the Falls, where they are to remain till further Orders from Capt. Dixon or Officer Commanding. A small quantity of Provisions should be forwarded to enable the empty Boats to return.

The purport of this Letter is not to be taken Notice of publicly, and is meant only for your own information. P. S.—Lieut. McKenzie and Dr. Keeffe may remain at your Post, nor is there occasion to forward the Powder and Cannon Shot sent. If any of these Articles are at the Harbour, they may remain there.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Pellet or Officer Commanding at the Coloradoes.

Bluefields, 26th. Nov., 1780.

Instructions to Capt. Todd.

The Dispatches intrusted to your care being of the greatest consequence, you will proceed with all possible Expedition to St. John's Castle. On your arrival at

Cooke's Post, you will deliver my Letter to Capt. Pellet or Officer Commanding, who has orders to forward you and directions to give you every assistance in his power that you may not be detained. On your arrival at the Castle, you will deliver your Letters, acquaint Capt. Dixon you have my orders to return as soon as possible, and take charge of any Letters he may have to send.

Stephen Kemble.

Bluefields, 28th. Nov., 1780.

Gentlemen:

Your Letter of 24th. Oct. was received Yesterday. The Advanced Season of the Year makes it necessary that some positive Estimation of the number and size of the Mosquito Craft should be ascertained, that his Excellency may be acquainted with the same. I am therefore to request that it may be sent me without delay; or, if an opportunity should offer immediately for Jamaica, that you will send it yourselves, pointing out such methods as you shall judge best to get them conveyed to this place.

As we have not proper Articles here to pay the Indians for their Pitpans should they bring them down, I must repeat my former information that Col. Irving will take charge of that business, and that I hope, agreeable to my former Letters, a sufficient number of Paddles is preparing, and that they shall be complete in every respect and fit for Service when wanted.

The business of the Congress being at an end, you will consider the Authority derived from me to be at an end likewise with the Indians for Negotiating the Treaty. The Expenses incurred I hope will be reasonable, and in that case immediately paid. Cash is not to be got here for Bills, and the little the Deputy Agent has he is obliged to retain to purchase Cattle, Turtle, &c., for the Troops; therefore none is sent. It is not in my power to appoint you (Mr. Cairns) to the Command of the Indians. His Excellency shall be

acquainted with their inclinations, and will, I am confident, do in this affair what he may judge best for his Majesty's Service.

I am much indisposed and unable to reply to the Letters from Mrs. Young, and the Governor, and Gen. Smee. To the latter you will give my Compliments, and inform Mrs. Young that, on proper Certificates being produced to justify the Expenditure, the hire of her Craft shall be paid to any Person properly Authorized.

I am, Gentlemen, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Messrs. Cairns and Thomson.

Bluefields, 28th. Nov., 1780.

Sir:

I wrote you some time ago, to desire you would immediately repair to this place to answer some questions relative to the Records of the Mosquito Shore, upon a Complaint of Major Laurie's; but you have neither thought it proper to obey the Summons, nor to make an Apology for your non-attendance. I am now, Sir, to order that you put an immediate stop to buying, hiring, or causing Pitpans to be built for the Public Service; but should you, in consequence of the orders received from the late Sir Alexander Leith, have any in your possession that cannot be returned, they are to be sent to Pearl Key Lagoon, and delivered up to Col. Irving, or his order, who will settle with the proprietors for the same; and as soon as that is done, which must be with all possible dispatch, you will make your Report to me in Person, bringing such Papers with you as you shall think necessary to Explain and Exculpate yourself from the other Charges Major Laurie has laid against you.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Mr. L'Estrange.

Bluefields, 29th. Nov., 1780.

Gentlemen:

I desired you in a former Letter to send me an Account of Craft that might be procured on the Shore, should the Service require them, with the name or names of Persons to be employed to collect them; this account I wish much to have, but you are not to buy or hire any till you receive further Orders. You are likewise to put an immediate stop to buying, hiring, or employing People to build Pitpans for the public use; but should there be any in your possession, in consequence of former Orders, Government will take them off your hands, as it would be a hardship to leave so great a burden on you when acting from Authority, and all under this description are to be sent to Pearl Key Lagoon and delivered to Col. Irving or his Order, who will settle with the Proprietors for the same; he leaves in a day or two for different parts of the Shore to regulate these matters, as well as others committed to his Charge and Inspection by his Excellency Gen. Dalling.

The business you were Charged with the Execution of, (viz., reconciling the Indians to Government) being now completed, all negotiations of every sort on the part of the Public are to be closed and an immediate report made to me of your proceedings since the Treaty at Tebuppy, transmitting at the same time an account of your Expenditures, if any, that the whole may be settled; and I think it would be proper that one of you should be the bearer of them, that there may be no delay or confusion of accounts.

It is necessary Capt. Caddle should first go to Black River and clear up matters with Major Laurie. That done, he will be at liberty to dispose of himself, and if Gen. Dalling approves of your Commanding the Indians, on which subject I have wrote him, Mr. Caddle may be employed under you; but that's a matter that will entirely rest with yourself, unless future orders direct to the Contrary. The Indians are a craving People, nor is there any bounds to their demands; if

they find you disposed to give, they will live on you to the end of time, and a stop must be put to Entertaining them. I cannot Answer to Government for these repeated demands of Provisions and supplies sent, and though I wrote you very lately on the subject, I think it necessary to observe it a second time.

I am, Gentlemen, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Messrs. Cairns and Thomson, at Tebuppy.

Bluefields, 5th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

I have the honour to receive your Letter of this date by Mr. Jones, your First Lieutenant. I should be happy could I promise myself the pleasure of accompanying you to Jamaica as soon as you seem to expect; but my orders from Gen. Dalling are to withdraw the Garrison from the Castle of St. John's, assemble them at this place and dispose of some of them as he has directed. then to Embark the remainder with the Stores and join him at Jamaica. An express in consequence has been sent to the Castle these eight days past, and Vessels are prepared to be sent to St. John's Harbour to bring them hither, which I suppose will not be effected in less than three Weeks or a Month.

Should you think it consistent with your orders to remain and cover the Embarkation of the Troops at St. John's Harbour, it will be effectually securing that Service.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Benjamin Archer, Esq.,
Commanding his Majesty's Ship Resource.

(Private.) Bluefields, 5th. Dec., 1780.

Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure to receive your Letters of 6th. and 9th. Nov., by Capt. Askey. The enclosed Copy

of a Letter from the late Sir Alexander Leith, to me, will probably account for the Expression you say is in one of my Letters relative to yourself, and it is the only thing that could draw a word from me that might in any wise give either of us concern. Though careful of Letters, I have not kept a Copy of mine on the subject; and whatever I may have said was a general reply to a harsh Paragraph, without choosing to be particular in my Answer, and your Ideas are perfectly just upon the occasion as the Copy will show.

It must be Evident from my Public Correspondence that I ever considered you an Active Officer, and friendly Adviser upon all occasions; and I think my Conduct need no Assurance to Convince you of it. Let me thank you for the friendly terms in which your Letter is expressed. I shall Attend to its Contents.

In my last Letters I talked of giving up the Command, and requesting his Excellency's permission to Change the air for my health, nor have I had reason since to alter my intentions. We are subject to severe Agues, but it is not so fatal as St. John's Harbour, and I apprehend will be tolerably healthy in good Weather; but for a long time past we have had hard winds with frequent Squalls, and heavy Showers almost every day.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Major Dalrymple.

Bluefields, 7th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of 15th. Sept., 5th. inst. The loss of so worthy an Officer as Major Jenkins is much to be lamented by all who had the pleasure of knowing him, and the number of Privates that died adds to our distress. I sincerely hope Mr. Harrison has recovered his health, and that Dr. Devonish is well, to whom I request you will make my Compliments.

All the heavy Ordnance we had are lost, two 24 pounders in the Harbour of St. John's, and four more on their way to this place, by the Vessels running on one of the Pearl Keys. The Troops under my Command are all disposed of by order of Gen. Dalling between this place and Black River.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Richard Hoar, Esq., Rattan.

Bluefields, 7th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

I had the honour to receive your Letters of 20th. and 21st. Nov., by Capt. Thomson, the 5th. inst., with their enclosures. He and Capt. O'Brien are now preparing the small Vessel Mr. Hoy brought to return to Black River with. Mr. Hoy thought proper to leave her here, saying his hands had left him, and he had none to navigate her back. The truth of the matter is, Mr. Hoy starved his People; and although I offered to put Provision on Board, on your Account, he would not take it without receiving an extra allowance for the Subsistence of himself and Crew, which I objected to, telling him he might live on what he received on the Public Account, and settle with you for it. I understand this Vessel has been in Government Service for some time, hired by you; if so, inquiry should be made unto the cause of her being detained so long from Black River, and the Person or Persons who have employed her should be made to pay at least part of her hire.

Mr. Campbell from Rattan has a quantity of Provision on board for your use. Some Arms and a small quantity of Ammunition (of which I enclose you an Account) will be sent by Capt. Thomson, who has my order to return to you and remain at Black River.

All our powder was lost on the passage from St. John's Harbour by the Vessel in which it was Em-

barked being wrecked on one of the Pearl Keys, and of that Article little can be Spared.

I hope, however, to send you a further supply in the course of three Weeks, with more Provisions and Stores, and a Detachment of Troops, having received his Excellency Gen. Dalling's orders for that purpose; but as these Troops are to come from St. John's Castle, which is to be abandoned, it will take some time before they can be Embarked for Black River, though I hope they will be on the way by the time mentioned, and you may depend upon it, no time shall be lost. Gen. Dalling directs me to send 100 Men; but that is conditional, and I don't know that I can spare that number, but they will not fall much short of it, unless some unforeseen accident shall take place; the like number to remain here.

As soon as these Arrangements are made, I shall sail for Jamaica, and think myself happily rid of this inhospitable Climate. As to Carpenters, Capt. Thomson will inform you I have only one doing duty, and but one Blacksmith left.

Osnabrigs we have none, and Blankets, I am afraid, not sufficient to supply the Troops.

I was in hopes to have had Capt. Lamb here early enough to have explored Bluefields River; but as that has been done by Col. Irving, his presence here is not necessary now, and I think you will do right to keep him with you for the present.

The order for sending Troops to Black River precludes my interfering in the raising of new Companies or granting Commissions of any sort, and his Excellency must be wrote to for his Approbation of these matters. Mr. Young's case is hard, and I think if represented by you and Certified by Capt. Polson, then Commanding Officer, Gen. Dalling will think it just some allowance should be made him, or he may order his Company to be put upon the same Establishment with others raised in the Settlement.

Mr. Campbell mentions your having two 9-pounders

at Black River that are of little or no use to you, and would be very serviceable at Rattan. I have given him 150 round Shot for them, and request they may be delivered to him if you have no material objection to the contrary.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Major Laurie, Superintendent of the Mosquito Shore.

Bluefields, 8th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

I had the honour to receive your Excellency's Letters of 8th. and 9th. Nov. on the 25th., by Capt. Askey, and on the 27th. I dispatched Capt. Todd, Express to St. John's Castle, with orders to the Commanding Officer to blow up the Castle and retire to the Harbour, where I should take care proper Vessels were sent to receive his Garrison, and that from Cooke's Post, Coloradoes, with the Stores, etc., etc.

The uncertainty—I might almost say impossibility—from the tempestuous Weather and Northerly Winds that prevail at this Season, of the Transports making a tolerable passage has induced me, by the advice of those Experienced in these matters, to decline sending them on this errand. I have therefore been under a necessity of taking Capt. Askey's Vessel into the Service (with His Consent), and to employ her, with other small Sloops and Schooners now here, to convey the Troops from St. John's Harbour to this place. I have likewise come to a resolution to send the Transports to Jamaica immediately, as their longer detention would probably be attended with consequences similar to that of the Venus and others.

The small Vessels will be of further use in Transporting the Detachment for Black River with expedition. Having received a very pressing letter from Major Laurie for assistance, enclosing the Examination

of two Spanish Deserters from Amoa, and the Deposition of a third Person, all agreeing in their intelligence of an intended Invasion of that Settlement by the Spaniards soon after Christmas, I have in consequence sent him 120 stand of Spanish Arms, four Barrels of Powder (though I could ill spare it), and some Ball, with a supply of Provisions. The Duplicate of your Excellency's Letter of the preceding Date was received the 5th. inst. by his Majesty's Ship Resource, and upon my representing to Capt. Archer the situation of Affairs he sailed for Monkey Point about ten Leagues to Leeward to cover the embarkation of the Troops at the Harbour.

The Hope is at last arrived, but not in harbour yet, her draught of Water being too great to come over the bar without being lightened, which we are at present employed in doing; but the swell is so high that this business is much impeded.

The constant rains we have had for some time past has retarded our work much and occasioned great sickness, principally among the Officers; scarcely one of them is free of an Ague. I have just got the better of a severe attack myself, though much weakened by it, and had I not received your Excellency's late orders, I had thoughts of removing for my health; but, as matters will be soon brought to a conclusion, I shall remain. This place and the disorders incident to it are by no means so fatal as St. John's Harbour, and we have lost few men but such as the Doctors predicted would die when they Embarked, and I apprehend in good Weather it will be tolerably healthy. Col. Irving left this some days ago for Pearl Key Lagoon, intending to proceed further; by him I sent orders to Messrs. Cairns and Thomson to stop all proceedings with the Indians, and to make up their Accounts. I have also given Messrs. Brookman and L'Estrange directions to put an end to their Negotiations with the Indians and other for Pitpans, conceiving it to be your Excellency's intentions that Government

should be put to no further Expense in this Quarter for Craft of any sort, the Charge attending which I apprehend will be very great. If I have acted wrong in taking this step without your sanction, I have only the uprightness of my Intention and desire to act in all respects for the good of the Service to plead in my excuse.

Since writing the above, the Express I formerly sent to Cooke's Post is returned, but without any Letters from Capt. Dixon, though private ones mention the Garrison at the Castle to be in great distress for Provisions. The Express informs me there had been frequent desertion among the Negroes, some of whom he apprehended at the Harbour and sent back ; that there was a prodigious flood in the River, and that the post at the Coloradoes had been overflowed, most of the Provision and Stores destroyed, and the greatest distress in all quarters. In consequence of this I have ordered a Vessel to Sail with a quantity of Provisions for St. John's Harbour, without delay, that there may not be any want on the Garrison's arrival there, which, from these circumstances, I apprehend will be sooner than expected. Capt. Todd was met at the Harbour on the 4th. inst., having been detained in his Passage down by the badness of the Weather, and narrowly escaped perishing.

From the above state of matters it is much to be feared the perishable Stores that may be embarked at the Castle will arrive at the Harbour but in a bad Condition, especially the Powder. Should that resource fail us, this Post and Black River will remain but ill provided, having only about 7 Barrels left here. I enclose your Excellency Returns for 15th. Nov. and 1st. Dec., with the Papers sent me by Major Laurie, mentioned in the body of this Letter.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Sent by Dr. Jameson in the Ship Sally.

Bluefields, 8th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

Immediately on your Arrival at the Harbour of St. John's with the Garrison and Stores from the Castle, and those from Cooke's Post, Coloradoes, you will embark the whole on board such Vessels as you will find there for your reception, and join me at Bluefields with all possible dispatch.

His Majesty's Ship Resource, Capt. Archer, will cover your Embarkation; but as the Vessels sent to receive you are only Sloops and Schooners of small draught of water, I think it would be eligible for you to make the best of your way along shore and not attend the Man of War, as she will be obliged to take a great offing, but in this you must be guided by his (Capt. Archer's) opinion and act accordingly. Should he consent to my proposal, Capt. Wood, who Commands a small Schooner belonging to this place, is a good Pilot, and will conduct you in safety. I send Capt. Parke, Director of Crafts, to take Charge of and Conduct them here. Capt. Flynn, Mr. Fitzgibbon, and Mr. Caldwell must attend him. Every Negro, all the Batteaux Men, and others he may require to assist him in this business are to be granted, to enable him to perform his Passage with as much Security as possible. You will also supply him with as many days' Provision as he may demand; and for fear accident from Weather or other causes may have reduced your Stores so as to require a supply for this purpose, or the Troops you may Embark, I send you three Weeks' Provision for the whole.

You will take Capt. Archer's opinion relative to the Germain, with that of Capt. Patterson's and such other Persons as you may think proper to Consult, and if they think it impracticable to bring her here, She must be destroyed; but as circumstances must guide you in all these things, you must do the best for the Service in every respect.

Should there be any of the Materials belonging to

the Germain worth preserving, you will take care that it is done, in case She is destroyed.

Not any of the Light Horse are to be employed to Navigate the Craft unless it is absolutely necessary, and only the Batteaux Men and Legion left on that Service. I wish you a prosperous issue to all these Affairs, and speedy arrival.

I am, with regard, Dear Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon, or Officer Commanding
St. John's Castle.

Bluefields, 8th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 11th. Nov. The detention of the Transports, and cause for the same, prior to my return to St. John's Harbour, has been accounted for by Messrs. Shaw and Galbraith, and the state of those sunk in the Harbour explained fully by the latter Gentleman, as he informs me. The Brig Julia is now in this Port, reported to you in such a condition as not to be fit for Sea. The Sloop St. John's fate you are also acquainted with. There only remains the Hope and three Ships last sent, viz., Betsy, Sally and Flora to be accounted for. The first arrived here within these few days only from Bocco-Toro, last, in bad conditions; the other three to Sail for Jamaica immediately. Of all these circumstances Mr. Galbraith has had my Orders to be very particular with you upon, that you may know the true state of the Shipping. The Weather is such now and has been for a long time past so bad, that it is not thought advisable to employ the Transports in the Navigation of this Shore, and it is, upon Mature consultation, supported by the opinion of Capt. Archer, of the Resource, that I have come to a resolution to send the three Transports back as useless, and to Employ small Vessels. Capt. Askey's Schooner is upon this Account taken into the Service, and with

others to be employed in conveying the Troops from St. John's Harbour, for which place they will Sail with all Dispatch.

Late Accounts from the Harbour represent affairs at the Castle in a sad condition, on Account of Provisions. Negroes Desert with whole Boats loaden, the floods have risen to such a height as to overflow the Post at the Coloradoes, and all or most of the perishable Stores, such as Flour, &c., destroyed, and the Current so rapid that it is almost impossible to make head against it; in few words, the whole is a scene of distress. I have ordered Vessels to sail immediately with Provisions for the Harbour, as I think it most probable the Garrison will be obliged to quit the Castle prior to the receipt of his Excellency's Orders for that purpose. We have now Askey's and Wood's Schooners, Everet's and Bailey's Sloops, with the Royal George in Employ, the four first to go to St. John's Harbour. Enclosed I send you the Names of four Prisoners sent in the Betsy, with a list of Carpenters, who in general have been of less use than any set of People ever were for the wages they received.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

P. S.—Enclosed you have also a Return of Artillery and Stores Embarked on board the Ship Sally.

Prisoners' Names: Josephine, a white Diego; Joseph, a Mulatto; and Joseph Ventura, do., taken by Lieut. McLean.

Juan Francisco Yore, a Mulatto, taken near St. John's Castle in August last.

To Hercules Ross, Esq., Agent General.

Bluefields, 11th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

The Ship Hope having a quantity of Valuable Stores on board belonging to Government, the loss

of which would materially injure the Service, and the Weather being such as to preclude all hopes of getting her into this Harbour without assistance, I am to request you will convey my desire to the Captains of the Flora and Betsy, that they may join you in endeavouring with the Boats and hands belonging to your respective Ships to bring her into this harbour as early to-morrow morning as weather and Tide will permit. Being persuaded of your readiness, as well as that of the Capts. Ayrson and Dobbins, to do all in your power for the good of the Service, I assure myself that no time will be lost in the Execution of it.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Bell, Commanding the Ship Sally.

Bluefields, 12th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

Since your departure for Monkey Point, I have received information that the waters have risen to such a height in the River St. John's as to overflow the Post at the Colorado Island, that the current is so rapid as to make it almost impossible for a boat to row against it, and that the Troops at the Castle are short of Provisions. I have, therefore, ordered the Sloop Industry, Capt. Bailey, to the Harbour, with some supplies for the Garrison should they have been obliged to quit the Castle prior to the receipt of my order for that purpose.

You are the best judge whether your ship is so situated as to cover the Embarkation without moving from her present Station; but at any rate I could wish an Officer were sent from you to assist Capt. Dixon, or Officer Commanding, in regulating the Embarkation of Stores, &c., when the Troops do arrive.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Archer, or Officer Commanding the Resource.

Bluefields, 13th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

Capt. Bailey in the Sloop Industry sailed Yesterday for St. John's Harbour with a quantity of Provisions for the Troops under your Command. Capt. Wood in the Schooner Bluefields sails to-morrow, loaden in like manner, and I hope to send you the Schooner Dolphin the day after to-morrow, also with a supply of Provisions, on board of which Vessels I am in hopes you will be able to Embark your whole Detachment of Troops and Stores, except the Negroes and such of the Legion and Batteaux Corps as are appropriated to the Craft Service; but should these Vessels be inadequate to the purpose, You will please to dispatch the first loaded without delay, that She may return to the Harbour as soon as possible for the remainder. In this You will acquaint me with the number of Troops and quantity of Stores left behind, that I may know if more than one Vessel is necessary to be returned to you. The Detachments of 79th. Loyal Irish Corps and Light Horse are to be the fi Embarked, with all the Powder you may have fit for use, and any small Brass or Iron ordnance, Carriages, and Store of Shot complete for Service.

I am, sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon, or Officer Commanding at St. John's Harbour.

Bluefields, 13th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

A quantity of 6 pound round Shot, and two heavy 6 pound Iron Guns were left in the hold of the sloop Success, sunk in the Harbour of St. John's; they are much wanted at this place, and I am to desire you will do all in your power to recover them, by employing Negro Divers or any other means that may suggest to you.

The Ship Venus should also be examined to see if any of the Ordnance or Stores in her hold can be come

at. Capt. Patterson knows where these Vessels lay, and may be of service on the occasion.

The 6 pounder and Shot, &c., left at Cooke's Post, will no doubt be brought away, and sent here with your Ordnance and other Military Stores.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon or Officer Commanding at St. John's Harbour.

Bluefields, 19th. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

I find by several People from Pearl Key Lagoon that Capt. Patterson, who lately went there, and whom I proposed to send to St. John's Harbour, has been induced, from Motives I am yet unacquainted with, to proceed further along the Shore. Should this Gentleman not make his Appearance in time to take charge of your Craft, Mr. Fitzgibbon and Mr. Caldwell, with such other Officers as you shall think necessary to Appoint, must be entrusted to bring them here; to the oldest of whom you will deliver the enclosed Instructions, and add any other directions that may suggest to you to forward this service. The shocking condition the Cargo of the Ship Hope arrived in has rendered it absolutely necessary to detain the Schooner I mentioned in my last from sailing before. She is now accompanied by a Sloop of Burthen, which, with the Vessels sent before, will enable you, I hope, to bring all your Stores and Troops away at one Trip.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Dixon, or Officer Commanding at St. John's Harbour.

Bluefields, 21st. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of

16th. inst., by Capt. Dixon, and must confess I am not a little disappointed and concerned at being informed it will take so long a time as Mr. Despard mentions to complete the destruction of the Castle. I have wrote him on the Subject, and I am to entreat you will exert yourself in forwarding the Mines as much as possible. Intelligence has been given me a few days ago, received from a Spanish Deserter, that 500 Men were gone to reinforce their Post at the head of the River, and it is not impossible that they may attack the Castle as soon as the fair Weather sets in, especially if they are informed you are preparing to destroy it. A good lookout should be kept, and if they do come down, you should retire, after having destroyed the Fort of St. Juan's in the best manner your time and circumstances will admit, and not attempt to defend the Post: if you do, you will run a risk of having your communication cut off, and your Retreat rendered hazardous and difficult; but you should beware of giving ear to uncertain Information, and have indisputable good reasons for what you do.

The Germain should be loaden with the heavy Artillery and Stores of all sorts, and sent down immediately. If that is delayed till the floods subside, the Waters will be so shoal as to impede her progress; but if She is sent down while they are up, there is no danger of her meeting with difficulties. Fitzgibbon knows the River better than any one, and should be entrusted to bring her to the Harbour. My preceding Letters, forwarded by Capt. Dixon, will be your guide on your arrival at the Harbour.

I could wish the Detachment of Loyal Irish and Light Horse at the Castle and Cooke's Post could be spared. If you think they can, send them off, with any small Artillery complete with Shot and Carriages, with directions to proceed to the Harbour, Embark on board Vessels they will find there, and Sail for this place with all dispatch. Lieut. McKenzie, now at Cooke's Post, should in that case join his Detachment.

The Command you are entrusted with is of conse-

quence, and your attention to the Service with a proper management of Affairs may be of use to you hereafter. I need say no more, assured that no exertion on your part will be wanting to bring matters to as speedy a Conclusion as possible.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Lieut. Browne, 60th. Regiment, or Officer Commanding at St. John's Castle.

Bluefields, 21st. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

Immediately on the receipt of this you will forward my Dispatch to the Castle in the most expeditious manner possible, with the Tools brought at same time, they being much wanted at that place; and as it will be necessary some careful person should be entrusted with the Dispatch and Tools, I am to desire you will order Dr. Cooke to take Charge of and go to the Castle with them, should no other Officer or trusty Person to send on this service, which is of material consequence. I have wrote to the Officer Commanding at the Castle to send down your Detachment if they can be spared; should that be done, you will join them, leaving the Command of the Post to Dr. Cooke, if no other Officer is present.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Lieut. McKenzie, or Officer Commanding at the Coloradoes.

Bluefields, 21st. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

I am to thank you for your Letters of the 9th. and 16th. inst., received Yesterday, by Capt. Dixon. The Spaniards taking Post on the Island you mention is of

little consequence, and only meant to prevent our reconnoitering, very immaterial to us at this time.

I am sorry Capt. Dixon quit his Command at the time he did, and should have prevented it had I the least idea of the time necessary to finish the Mines ; I did imagine they were all ready, and that three or four days would have been sufficient to complete all matters for the destruction of the Fort of St. Juan, Buildings, &c., &c., and I am now to request you will use all possible dispatch in Accomplishing it. I cannot pretend to give directions in your line of Department, but I think it advisable to hasten Affairs though the Mines were not so completely executed as a longer time would permit. The two faces of the Castle looking to the land, or N.W. and S.W. fronts, as I conceive them to be, and the Tower are most to be attended to, and if completely destroyed the material point is gained, in my opinion, though the others should not be neglected entirely.

The Season of the Year is advancing fast when the Spaniards may make an attempt to retake the place, especially if they understand you are busy in preparing to destroy it, and for that reason expedition is required ; besides, the Troops are wanted for other Service, and must quit in time should there be the smallest probability of the Spaniards coming to Attack you.

Intelligence from Indians say 500 Men are gone to the Post at the Lake ; should they attempt you at all, it will be with so superior a force as perhaps to cut off your communication and render your Retreat hazardous and difficult.

When I wrote to Capt. Dixon I did not suppose you could be spared for the Service of Reconnoitering, nor did I wish you should undertake it. If I had I would have wrote you on the Subject. If this reaches you time enough, pray lay aside thoughts of going yourself, and drop the Affair entirely. Should any Accident happen to you, how are matters to be carried on at the Castle? We should run a risk of leaving the place in the same condition in which it was when taken.

As to Bat and Forage Money, I have never received a distribution, nor do I know what you are to receive as Chief Engineer; but the best thing you can do, in my opinion, is to send a Power of Attorney to some Person in Jamaica, to receive your proportion from Mr. Ross. There are many Officers there who can tell what you are entitled to. No supplies of Artillery or Engineers' Stores have been received lately from Jamaica, nor do I apprehend do they mean to send any.

Enclosed is a list of Tools sent; none other we have.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Lieut. Despard, Engineer, St. John's Castle.

Bluefields, 24th. Dec., 1780.

Instructions to Capt. Patterson, Chief Director of Crafts, &c.

The loss of Crafts of all sorts having been extremely great, and the expense to Government very considerable, makes it necessary you should go to St. John's Harbour to take charge of and conduct the whole employed on the River St. John's to this place, the Garrison of the Castle and Cooke's Post being withdrawn. You will, therefore, proceed to St. John's Harbour in the Schooner Dolphin, where on your arrival you will show these Instructions to Capt. Dixon or Officer Commanding, who has directions to give you all the Assistance in his power; and I rely on your Experience in these matters, that every Craft, Pitpan, or Dory, that can with any degree of safety be brought to this place, is done.

Towlines, Anchors, and Sails will be furnished you in as ample a manner as our situation will permit, and I request that you and your Officers are as careful of them as possible, that they may be returned into Store on your arrival here. Such Craft as require it are to be repaired, and you will be careful to take the most

exact Account of all you may bring away or leave behind as totally ruined, that a Return of the same may be transmitted to the Commander in Chief. You will also get the best account you possibly can of all Craft, Pitpans, or Dories that have been lost or destroyed from the commencement of the Expedition, and the time when each was so lost or destroyed, that the hire of the same may be ascertained and the public put to no more than a just expense for them. Should it be found impossible to bring the whole from the Harbour of St. John's to this Port, those left are to be deposited in a secure and unfrequented place, that they may at a proper time hereafter be recovered. As much depends on your judgment of these matters and knowledge of the Navigation, my expectations are in proportion heightened, and I promise myself every possible success from your Abilities, perseverance, and good Conduct.

P. S. As soon as you arrive at the Harbour of St. John's you will employ the Boats and hands belonging to the Vessels there, with such other People as you can get, and endeavour to recover all the Cannon, Shot, Stores, &c., &c., that were left on board the Ships Horatio and Venus, and Sloop Success, sunk in that Harbour.

Stephen Kemble.

Bluefields, 27th. Dec., 1780.

Sir :

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of 7th. inst., and am sorry to hear the Mosquito Men and Sambos are so troublesome to you. If it is in my Power to put a stop to it, I will ; but I fear the distance we are at will render any measures I can take ineffectual.

As it appears to be Gov. Dalling's intentions to leave some Troops at this place and to send a few to Black River, I apprehend the Indians will be cautious in declaring for the Spaniards, and I think you may rest quiet on that head. You must be the best judges your-

selves what measures will be necessary for you to take should the Spaniards attack the Settlement at Cape Gracias a Dios; Assistance from the Troops you can expect none, from the great distance they are at on either side, and I can give you no better advice than to keep a good look out, that you may be apprised of an Enemy coming against you of superior force, and in that case to make your Retreat in time to some place where you may be in Security.

I am, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Mr. Garrison, Cape Gracias a Dios.

Jamaica, 31st. Dec., 1780.

Sir:

The Kingston Packet returned a few days ago with Engineer Muller, by whom I received your dispatches of October and November.

His report respecting the Rivers and Country leading from Bluefields to Lake Nicaragua is very unfavourable for recommencing an attack against the enemy's Territories by that quarter; and by the returns and information of the state and situation of His Majesty's Troops on the Main, I consider it impracticable for the present to pursue offensive operations to that extended degree first proposed. By the Schooner of Capt. Askey I sent orders for evacuating and destroying St. John's Castle and for removing the Troops and Stores to Bluefields. With great regret I find myself compelled to abandon an enterprise from which so much honour and national consequence were expected. Upon receipt of this you are to make the necessary disposition for quitting Bluefields and returning to this Island, leaving fifty men and such Stores as shall be requisite to finish the works began for the defence of the place, and which may be of utility for encouraging the Indians to make incursions into the Enemy's Settlements. The remainder of the Troops and Stores

you are to embark on the Transports now at Bluefields, one of which you will allot for the hired Negroes, all of whom are to be carefully collected and brought back.

Those lately arrived from the Island of Rattan are likewise to be returned to their respective Owners so soon as the service will admit. I have applied to Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Parker for a convoy and assistance of some seamen to navigate the Transports; he has answered that the Captain of His Majesty's Ship Resource, now at Bluefields, has orders to co-operate with you in such measures as may be requisite for convoying and bringing back the Ships, Troops, and Stores.

I am informed among the Negroes sent down there are a number of sailors, therefore some of them will be useful to assist in working the Ships. To such officers and privates of the Provincial Corps who may choose to remain and settle at Bluefields, you are to grant discharges and every other reasonable encouragement by furnishing them, from the public Stores, with Arms for their defence, implements of husbandry, and Provisions.

You will order the expenses incurred for carrying on the Service to be finally adjusted and arranged with the greatest Economy, and that none but unexceptionable demands, with clear and distinct vouchers, are certified or approved by you.

Major Odell, whom I dispatched in last June to New York, is daily expected here with about 300 Recruits. I should be glad to be informed whether such a Corps could be of any use below on the Main, and whether tolerable quarters can be provided for them at Bluefields.

I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant,

John Dalling.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

Endorsed. Received 11th. Jan., 1781. *Answered.*

Return of Officers that have died on the Expedition to St. John's Harbour.

60th. Regiment.—Lieut. Peter Haldimand, Lieut. John Charlton, Lieut. Joshua Wolfe (died Sept. 8, 1780, at St. John's Harbour), Ensign Christian Plees, Ensign J. Philip Jeserick, Surgeon's Mate Byrne (at Bluefields, Oct. 12, 1780).

79th. Regiment. — Capt.-Lieut. James Mounsey, Capt. William Colvill (died August 29, 1780), Lieut. Crisp Chand. Gascoyne, Lieut. John Bramley, Lieut. Schomberg, Lieut. Thomas Leigh (died on board the Hope at Sea, Sept. 23, 1780), Ensign Charles Hill, Ensign Tymperley (died on his way to Jamaica), Ensign Charles John Trusler.

Royal Irish Corps.—Capt. Edmond Harte.

Jamaica Royal Volunteers.—Capt. John Bertrand (died May 15, 1780), Capt. Roger Shakespeare (drowned April 7, 1780), Capt. Pierce Cook, Lieut. Cook, Lieut. Simon Booth, Lieut. James Douglas, Lieut. Laughlan McLean (died May 17, 1780), Lieut. Thomas Fitzgerald (died Oct. 16, 1780), Ensign John Davis.

Jamaica Legion.—Capt. Aldrid (died on his way to Jamaica), Lieut. Fanning, Lieut. Colburn, Lieut. Allan, Lieut. Surry, Ensign Tasset, Ensign Taaffe (died at Bluefields, Oct. 10, 1780), Ensign Denap (died at Bluefields, Oct., 1780), Quarter Master McKay, Surgeon Johnston.

Royal Artillery.—Lieut. George Fead, Lieut. Fireworker Napier.

Royal Batteaux Volunteers.—Capt. Nemens, Lieut. Campbell (D. J. Advocate), Quarter Master Campbell, Surgeon McCullough.

Hospital Mate Rush, died August 22, 1780; Hospital Mate McIntire, died at Bluefields, Oct. 14, 1780; Hospital Mate Alexander, died at Bluefields, Oct. 25, 1780; Hospital Mate Henderson, died at Bluefields, Dec., 1780.

Bluefields Bluff, 2d. Jan., 1781.

Sir :

Having considered with attention your late information relative to the Woolwa Chief (Capt. Dick), and what passed at that time, with the situation of Affairs at this place, and our present defenceless state, as well as your being detached to so great a distance as six Miles, with a large quantity of Arms, Ammunition, &c., I cannot help reflecting on the consequences that may attend an Attack on your Quarter by the small resistance that could be made by so few People as are at present with you ; nor do I think, were it possible for you to collect the Negroes from your Neighbourhood in time, they would be adequate to the Task of repelling an Enemy in force ; besides, the Indians, who have been with you from time to time, know the Ground perfectly well, and where to place themselves so as to cut off all Succour that might attempt to come to your assistance from Wood's farm. All these things considered, with the impropriety in my opinion of risking a Detachment from the small Body of Troops under my command to your Aid till this place is put into some state of defence, induce me to consult you on the necessity, as I conceive it, of removing your Stores to this side of the Water, at least the Arms and Ammunition, except such part as you may think necessary for your own protection should you prefer remaining where you are.

The Arms and Ammunition can be taken the greatest care of here, and sent to you in such quantities as may be called for from time to time ; all other Stores may be lodged with the Quarter Master General, should you be of opinion it would be best to send the whole over.

Were the Spaniards to come down the River in force and possess themselves of your Stores in their present state, they would be so completely furnished with everything necessary to pursue the blow that they might attempt, by having the means to Arm numbers, what they before had not an idea of. The Indians (ever

faithless) and always adhering to the stronger side, would probably join the Spaniard were he successful; nor would it be in our power, as situated just now, to arm and provide the Mosquito Men with Ammunition (should they continue steady in their friendship) were we deprived of your supplies. Your own Anxiety, at an Absence ever so short, sufficiently indicates the consequence of your Charge, and I am led from thence to think you will join with me in sentiment.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Lieut.-Col. Irving.

Bluefields, 5th. January, 1781.

Sir:

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of 30th. Dec., and am glad to find the destruction of the Castle will not take up so long a time as was at first expected. It was my intention to have sent an Anchor for the Germain long ago, but none could be got, nor is there one to be had now. She had an Anchor when I left the Castle—what has become of it?—but I hope you will not wait for a thing that cannot be procured nearer than Jamaica; and while the Waters are up there's little danger of her meeting with an Accident in the way down. If she's detained till the fall, it will be difficult if not impossible. I therefore hope your own judgment will have pointed out the necessity of sending her off at any rate.

You have done very right by sending away the Sick and useless People, with the Artillery, &c. My former Letters to Capt. Dixon, forwarded to you, direct the Loyal Irish Corps and Light Horse to be sent to this place as soon as possible, which I beg you will attend to; their leaving the Castle before it was Evacuated was left entirely at the discretion of the Officer Commanding. You will also observe in the Letters mentioned, that the fate of the Germain is to

be decided by the Officer Commanding his Majesty's Ship Resource; but should he not be at the Harbour on your arrival there, you will consult those most experienced in Sea Affairs on what is proper to be done with her, and Act accordingly.

Be careful to have exact returns of all Artillery and Stores, and on board of what Vessel they are Embarked.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To Lieut. Brown, 60th. Regiment, or Officer Commanding St. John's Castle.

Bluefields, 5th. January, 1781.

Sir:

Should the Iron six pounder, with the Shot, Powder, &c., not be sent from Cooke's Post to the Harbour before you receive this, I am to desire it may be done instantly, and Embarked on board Capt. Bailey with such other Stores as may be sent from the Castle, that there may be no delay on the arrival of the Troops at the Harbour. If Capt. Bailey can be loaded with Stores, and Sail by the 12th., or before, he had better be dispatched, and may return in time to take part of the Troops in that are to come from the Castle.

I am, Sir, &c., &c., &c.,
Stephen Kemble.

To Lieut. McKenzie, or Officer Commanding at Cooke's Post.

Bluefields, 12th. January, 1781.

Sir:

The Bearer, Capt. Patterson, Chief Director of Crafts, is ordered to the Harbour of St. John's, to take charge of and conduct the whole employed on the River to this place. He is furnished with every-

thing necessary for that Service in as ample a manner as we are able; but as circumstances not now to be foreseen may throw difficulties in his way, I beg leave to recommend him to your Notice, and request you will give him your Advice, as also such assistance as the Service may require and you can with propriety grant.

Lieut. Jones mentioned to me your intentions of proceeding to the Corn Islands as soon as the Embarkation is completed and the Vessels with the Troops and Stores sail for this place, there to remain till you suppose all matters are prepared here, and I am ready to proceed to Jamaica. I have only to observe on this subject that I fear the time of our sailing from this cannot be so justly calculated as to insure you a short detention off this Harbour, and whether it would not be better to Anchor off Pearl Key Lagoon for a few days, where I have it in my power to send and acquaint you when we are ready to Sail.

Capt. Todd, who is now with the Troops at St. John's Castle, is a professed Pilot on this Coast, and if not materially wanted for any other purpose will come with you. Capt. Patterson is also well acquainted with the Coast, and will explain my sentiments if necessary. I have informed the Officer Commanding the Troops that your opinion is to determine the fate of the Germain Armed Vessel.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Capt. Archer, or Officer Commanding the Resource.

Bluefields, 16th. January, 1781.

Sir:

I could wish, if it were possible with your other arrangements, that the well Men of the 60th. Loyal Irish Corps and the British of the Light Horse, with their Officers and Baggage, were Embarked on board

the Sloop Industry, Capt. Bailey, in which Vessel you will come yourself, as She is thought to be the best sailer. If you can put any light Brass or Iron Cannon with Carriages complete and a quantity of your best Powder in her, so much the better.

As the Man of War will most probably touch at Corn Islands and not come off this Port till all her Convoy is ready to Sail for Jamaica, it may be convenient for any of your Officers to take their passage in her.

I am, Sir, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Lieut. Brown, 60th. Regiment,
St. John's Harbour.

Bluefields, 18th. January, 1781.

Sir :

I had the honour to receive your Excellency's dispatch of 31st. Dec., by the Kingston Packet, on the 11th. inst. My Letter by Dr. Jameson, who sailed in the Ship Sally, Capt. Bell (which I hope is by this time come to hand), will inform you with my reasons for sending the Transports to Jamaica, and of my having forwarded your orders to the Officer Commanding at the Castle to destroy it and join me at Bluefields as soon as possible, which I flattered myself would have been put in almost immediate Execution ; but I found to my great concern from Capt. Dixon (who left the Castle in consequence of Your Excellency's leave of Absence) and joined me the 20th. Dec. last, that it would take an infinitely longer time than I had any idea of to complete the Mines for the destruction of the Works. Mr. Despard's computation, not less than eight or ten Weeks ; this I considered so extravagant that I immediately dispatched a second Express to hasten Matters, and by Letter of 30th. Dec. from Lieut. Brown, 60th. Regiment, who now Commands, I am given to hope he will be at the Harbour by 20th. of this Month.

Being much better in health than when Mr. Muller left this, I do not think myself at liberty to take the advantage of your Excellency's permission to return to Jamaica, though I have it much at heart, till the Troops arrive from the Castle and your orders for disposing of them put in execution.

I have in consequence to observe to your Excellency that I propose to make up the Detachment for Black River from the following Corps (Viz.), 60th. Loyal Irish Corps, and Light Horse; the few remaining of 79th. Regiment to return to Jamaica, the Jamaica Volunteers to remain at this place till further orders; and should Major Odell's Corps be sent down, your Commands in your last Letter, relative to the Provincial Corps, can then take place with safety; but were the Volunteers now to have the option of remaining here with the Advantages held out to them, not a Man scarcely of the Corps would refuse it, and there would be none left to Guard this place, the Sick and Stores that must of necessity be left, as well as the Sick of the Detachment ordered to Black River. Could I promise myself that those Men who would accept their Discharges on the Conditions mentioned would reside here for a time, I should not take the liberty of deferring the Execution of your Orders; but that cannot be depended upon longer than necessity obliges them, and there's hardly a doubt but they would take the earliest opportunity of getting away, which they would be enabled to do by disposing of the very Articles given to retain them, in order to pay that Passage to Jamaica or elsewhere; whereas by Discharging them on arrival of Major Odell's Corps, many might be induced to stay, as they would have a prospect of disposing of any stock, &c., they might raise, and an Asylum to fly to in case of danger.

Shelter for great part of Odell's Corps is already prepared, and the rest might be put under cover in a very short time. The Bluff is not thought unhealthy now, and when the Wood is cleared round it, it will

be still less so. Vegetables are to be got, though not in so great plenty as we could wish ; but a Market will naturally increase the supplies, and a Corps such as Odell's, inured to the Climate by a residence of a few Months, may on a future occasion be of considerable Service. At present I see no immediate advantage to arise from their being placed here, except the Indians could be persuaded to act with them ; but that I confess I have no hopes of, their Sentiments on that head being pretty clear in the proceedings of the Treaty at Tebuppy. It is possible a Detachment of Odell's Corps, were they sent here, might make an Excursion during the Good weather by Bluefields River to the Spanish Settlements and Alarm the Inhabitants on the borders of the Lake—perhaps do some mischief—but that is all I conceive could be expected from them. I hope the reasons I have given will be thought sufficient by your Excellency for the delaying the execution of your Commands relative to the Provincial Corps till your further orders are transmitted. Capt. Macdonald, of the Volunteers, has my permission to go to Jamaica for his health ; and should I leave this before an answer is received, Capt. Davis, of the Volunteers, will succeed to the Command, who is an Active, Intelligent Officer, in whom I have placed some confidence, and have had occasion to be satisfied with his conduct. Should Major Odell's Corps be ordered here, the Transports that bring them can carry the Sick and recovered Men ordered to Black River who may not be able to go in the first instance, with such Negroes as may then be spared to Rattan. All the Spaniards belonging to the Light Horse will be returned to Jamaica, their behaviour being such as to render the measure necessary ; and I shall direct the Officer Commanding to give those remaining of that Corps their discharges as soon as the Service at Black River will admit of it. There are about a Dozen Spanish Women and Children that were taken at St. John's Castle, whom it was intended to set at liberty

had we ever got possession of the Lake ; they will now be brought here, with the Garrison. If your Excellency thinks it proper, they may be sent to Matina with a Flag ; they are of no use now, and will only be an encumbrance.

I enclose a Letter from Capt. Davis, by which your Excellency will see that Gentleman wishes to be removed to an old Corps. Capt. Macdonald also requests I would intimate his intentions of continuing in the Service with the like views ; he has shown great attention to his duty, and I think will make a steady, good Officer.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Bluefields, 19th. Jan., 1781.

Friend and Brother :

I received your Letter of the 8th. inst. Yesterday Evening, and am very sorry the Woolwas in commerce with the Spaniards refuse to Pilot you up great River, which has occasioned you to lay aside your Expedition by that route, and to propose an Attack upon Matina, which I apprehend cannot take place till the Norths are over, and that a small delay will not be of any disadvantage. In the meantime I hope to get as many Craft from St. John's Harbour as will be necessary for any future purpose. The report you have heard of all the Craft except six being lost is not true, and only spread by some designing Person to injure the King of England's business. I have sent Capt. Patterson for all the Crafts, and as soon as they come up, and we can tell whether yours is among those missing, She shall be either paid for or returned to you with the hire due for her.

I am obliged to you, my good Brother, for your offers of Assistance to beat and destroy the Spaniards,

and I am happy to find the great King of England and his Excellency the Governor have so good a friend as you are; and though I never had the pleasure of seeing you, or talking with you, yet I am glad to tell you that everybody says that you are a good man, a good friend to the English, and a brave Captain. The Negro Deserter is come here, but the Curasoa Man run away. I will send you a little rum, and have ordered your People to be paid twenty yards of Oznabrigs each, as you request. Your Craft Sails have been taken care of, and are now sent you by your Quarter Master.

I apprehend your Men alone are too few for the Expedition against Matina and Carataga: consider what a number of Spaniards are in that Country; and though I believe you would Beat ten times your number, still, a great many more might kill some of your People, which I should be very sorry for. Besides, I know Gov. Dalling wishes you to act up your own Rivers, in concert with your other friends, and I expect his orders on that head soon. Col. Irving has sent all the Arms and Ammunition to different places on the Shore, and will bring you his Excellency the Governor's answer to my Letter—how and in what manner he wishes you to go to War. Col. Irving will also settle with the People who have built Pitpans agreeable to my former directions; which Mr. Cairns can let you know the particulars of. Your People never asked me for Provisions that they did not get it, and as much as they could eat. Those that have complained will not say it was me that refused them, or that I knew they wanted.

I send you ten Gallons of Rum as a token of my regard. Wishing you health and prosperity, I remain,

Your Friend and Brother, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

Colvil Briton, Governor of
Mosquito Indians.

Bluefields, 20th. January, 1781.

Sir:

Since closing my Letter of the 18th. I have received one from the Indian (Gov. Briton), which I have the honour to transmit for your Excellency's Perusal. My answer is as Civilly expressed as possible, but waives his proceeding upon the Expedition he proposes till your Sentiments are known.

When I proposed to accept the offer made by Messrs. Cairns and Thomson, of the Mosquito Men going against Matina, it was with a view of checking any idea the Spaniards might have entertained of Attacking Cooke's Post; but that being no more an object, perhaps it would be better they should Act up their own Rivers.

Col. Irving has represented to me that he conceives an absence of four or five Weeks will not be of any prejudice to the Service; that the beginning of March would be the properest time for the Indians to Act, and that he proposes in the meantime to proceed to Jamaica and lay before your Excellency the State of Indian Affairs.

In justice to Capt. Dixon I beg leave to inform your Excellency that I have received great satisfaction from the manner in which he conducted himself during his Command of the Castle of St. John's. He was sensible everything in my power was done to forward Stores and comforts for his Garrison, and though they arrived much reduced from the inclemency of the Weather and other accidents, which would have caused some men to complain of hardships, he had steadiness enough to combat his numerous difficulties without repining and to exert himself for the best.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Instructions to Capt. Brown, 60th. Regiment, or Officer Commanding a Detachment of His Majesty's Troops ordered to Black River.

Bluefields, 30th. Jan., 1781.

You will proceed, in the Vessel provided for the reception of the Troops under your Command, to Black River, on the Mosquito Shore, and on your arrival there you will acquaint Major Laurie, the Superintendent of the same, giving him a state of your Detachment that he may know their strength and condition, which you will continue to do from time to time, and regulate with him the mode of disposing of them for the greater safety and defence of the Country under his Command, as circumstances and the good of the Service may require.

A quantity of Powder, &c., agreeable to the enclosed Return, are embarked on board your Vessels, which you are to dispose of as shall be thought best by you and the Superintendent, whom you will consult upon all public concerns. Provisions for your Detachment is likewise put on board your Vessels, which you will demand proper Store houses for the reception of, and order the Commissary to be careful that it is examined and put in the best condition to preserve it.

You will be as expeditious as possible in getting your Troops into the best Quarters the Superintendent can procure for them ; should one place be esteemed more healthy than another, they should be lodged there, except when apprehension of an Enemy may make it Necessary to occupy Posts for the defence of the Settlement committed to the Superintendent's charge.

Returns of your Detachment are to be sent to Head Quarters in Jamaica as often as opportunities offer, with Returns of Stores and Provisions, and all other information that may give a just State of your wants and the necessary supplies to be sent.

Should you at any time receive intelligence that may concern the Post at Bluefields, you are to communicate the same, as the nature of it may require, consulting the

Superintendent on the degree of Credit to be given the information you may receive. You will keep up the strictest discipline among the Troops under your Command, give the most pointed Orders they do not interfere with the Inhabitants in any respect, and prevent irregularities of every sort.

Your Ammunition should be frequently examined, and care taken that a quantity of Musket Cartridges are always ready in Store.

As the Settlement of Black River has been threatened with an Attack from the Spaniards, it will be proper you should reconnoiter the place before you land; and should the Enemy be in possession of the Settlement or have destroyed it, you having sufficient Authority for the same, and can be of no use by remaining. you are then to proceed to the Island of Rattan, observing the like precautions, and, after having landed there, to send advice of the same by first conveyance to the Commander in Chief in Jamaica, awaiting his orders for your further Conduct.

Stephen Kemble.

Memorandum favoured by Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

In December, 1779, encouraged by a Proclamation issued by His Excellency Gen. Dalling, I applied myself to Raise a Company of Volunteers for an Intended Expedition, which, when Complete, I delivered to the Command of Major John MacDonald, and Applied for the Bounty Granted, to Enable me to Clothe my Company, And their Advanced pay to the 24th. February, 1780, to the Men to Equip them for Service. To this request, made Separately to Major and Capt. MacDonald as Commanding Officer and *paymaster Appointed by himself*, I never Received Any Satisfactory answer, and was at Last, from sudden Sailing Orders, obliged to Embark without Receiving any more than about £50—An Advance on my own Subsistence Account from the date of my Commission.

I always Attributed these Delays in the payments

to What *I was Informed* (a Scarcity of Money, &c., in the hands of the Agent), and had no Apprehensions till I found in this Country that all Demands of the Corps had been Paid up to Major MacDonald previous to the Sailing of the Expedition, And that Capt. Cooke was the Only Officer Who had received the Bounty, And pay, for the Men he had Enlisted.

The Additional Circumstance of Capt. MacDonald's Bringing an Extra Quantity of Clothing, Selling those to each of the Captains that had not been paid, and Charging about 300 per Cent. advance, with a Suggestion that no Bounty ever had been granted, but an Advance, to be again Deducted from the Men's pay, was to be a fund for paying this Extravagant Account, awaked Apprehensions in me that there was Not Justice Intended; And Capt. MacDonald also having Settled the Deficient Ration Account with the Commissary of Provisions the Evening before he Sailed for Jamaica, without Mentioning a Word of it to me, Nearly Convinces me his Intention is to Handle as much Money As he Can, and Leave me (perhaps) to get it from him as I can.

What I would request is, that Major and Capt. MacDonald pay up the Moneys they Received in January, 1780, Immediately, And that Upon a Settlement with the Agent General the Whole of my Accounts With the Corps be paid up to the 24th. Feb., 1781.

Edward Davis, Capt.,
Jamaica R. Volunteers.

Bluefields, February 3d., 1781.

Instructions to Capt. Davis, of the Jamaica Volunteers, or Officer Commanding his Majesty's Troops ordered to remain at Bluefields.

Bluefields, 5th. February, 1781.

The Post you are left in the Command of being of consequence to Government, as it protects the Mos-

quito Indians in this quarter from the Incursions of the Spaniards, and as a refuge for them to fly to in case of danger, may stimulate them to Acts of Hostility against the Enemy, and recommended as such by his Excellency Gen. Dalling, as you will perceive by the enclosed Extracts; wherein his Excellency also directs such of the Provincial Officers and Privates as choose to remain and settle at Bluefields to be discharged, and provided with Arms, implements of husbandry, and Provisions; but the situation of Affairs at present make it necessary to defer putting this part of his Excellency's orders in Execution till his further pleasure is known.

You will therefore content yourself till further orders are received with using all possible dispatch in forwarding the Works began for the protection of your Troops and Stores, and as soon as tenable, to remove a proportion of Provisions, Ammunition, &c., into it, that you may be always prepared for defence in case of Attack

Hogsheads or Barrels should be provided to put fresh Water in, as the distance you have to go for that necessary Article may subject you to difficulties in time of danger.

Should his Excellency Gen. Dalling think proper to pursue his Plan of granting discharges to such Officers and Privates of the Provincial Corps as may choose to settle here, the idea of having their Pay sent down to them (which I shall represent as an object of attention) may induce many of them to remain on the spot, of which it would be proper you should inform them whenever this arrangement may take place. Returns of the Troops under your Command are to be sent to head Quarters in Jamaica as often as opportunities offer, with returns of Provisions, Artillery and Stores, &c., and all other information that may give a just State of Affairs and the necessary supplies to be sent. Should you at any time receive intelligence that may require to be communicated to Major Laurie, or Officer Com-

manding the Troops at Black River, you are to forward the same as the Nature of the Service may point out.

All demands of Craft lost in the Service, hire of the same, and hire of those that may be returned to the owners, are ordered to be sent to the Officer Commanding at Bluefields, which you will transmit to Hercules Ross, Esq., Agent General, with any remarks you may think proper to make on the same, either by yourself or by information you may receive from the Director of Crafts, Capt. Patterson ; to whom you will give the strictest orders to have all Crafts, Pitpans, or Dories belonging to Government taken the greatest care of and put in proper places to secure them and prevent them from being damaged or lost. A number of Crafts, Pitpans, &c., are left at St. John's Harbour, which would be a considerable loss to the Public if neglected entirely. I am therefore to desire you will take the first favourable occasion to send for them, as soon as the labour of the Negroes will admit of their absence. But as the loss of a number of Negroes would be more than equivalent of the Value of the Craft, This measure should not be attempted unless you are certain of their safe return. Should a Ship of War come here, and the Officer Commanding be prevailed on to protect the Craft till they quit the Harbour, the opportunity should not be lost.

You will keep up the strictest discipline among the Troops under your Command, and by your example as well as influence prevail upon the Officers and Soldiers to Cultivate a good understanding with the Mosquito Indians, whose friendship it is the Commander in Chief's direction should be courted upon all occasions, as well to Attach them to our interest, as to prevent them from tampering in any respect with the Spaniard.

Capt. Patterson should be directed to give in as particular a Return as he can make out, of all Crafts, Pitpans, and Dories that have been employed upon the Expedition, to whom they belong, whether in use,

lost, and at what time, or left at St. John's Harbour, which you will also transmit to the Agent General, with a separate Return of the Pitpan and Dories purchased for Government since the arrival of the Troops at this place.

Mr. Shaw the Commissary will give you returns of the quantity of Provisions left in Store for the use of the Troops under your Command, and of what is to be sent to Jamaica when opportunities offer, to which your attention is necessary. Capt. Parke will give you a Copy of Artillery and Engineer's Stores left for those Departments, and Capt. Rochat a Copy of the Quarter Master General's Stores; but you are not to make up or issue the blue Cloth intended for your Corps till you hear from Jamaica, unless you find it absolutely necessary.

Should the Weather continue unfavourable, and you receive no Accounts from Capt. Patterson in the course of nine or ten days, it will be proper you should send a boat or two to his relief with a few barrels of Flour, and endeavour by every other means in your power to get intelligence of him, and the situation he is in.

Mr. Shaw is ordered to Purchase a quantity of Oznabrigs as a deposit for public Services, such as paying for Timber, Plank, &c., for the Works, and other occasional uses you may have on Government Account of which you will be as saving as possible. The Sick of the 60th. Regt. and Loyal Irish Corps left in Hospital are to be sent to Jamaica when opportunities offer.

The Service not requiring Mr. Fitzgibbons being continued any longer in the Crafts Department, you will therefore discharge him from the same on his arrival, and on his application to Mr. Johnston will be settled with by a Draft on the Agent General.

All Artificers, &c., employed in Government Service not included in Capt. Parke's list, are to be sent to Jamaica by the first opportunity, or discharged here at their own election.

Stephen Kemble.

Bluefields Mosquito Shore
6th. of Fiburary 1781.

Sir:

The following account is a relaition of what I am able to recolect respecting Captain Tods behaviour and Conduct during the time of my Command at St. Juans Castle and whom for the good of the Service I was oblidged to confine. Captain Tod arrived at the Castle on or about the 25th of November With dispatches from you to Captain Dixon (then Commanding officer at the Castle) and who Whent down the River a day or two after leaving me in the Command as the next officer. At this Time Mr. Fitzgibbon (who was entrusted With the Command of the Gun Boat Called the Germain) was then supposed to have been lost in going down the River Captain Tod knowing this offered his to Captain Dixon to Aid and assist in getting Up the Germain that Was droped down the River by Breaking loose. This Captain Dixon readily excepted of, Which Was the first instance of his essuming the Command of Germain Gun Boat, he got up the Germain and continued giving his directions concerning her Uninterrupted Untill the 31st. of December A few days before Which Fitzgibbons Returned to the Castle, but as I thought Fitzgibbons: Would be very Usefull to me in the Craft Department and as Captain Tods management of the Germain had not As Yet given me Aney cause of Complaint (otherwise than loading her to deep and being desiourus of gitting: still more Stores on Board) this I did not consider of any consequence at the time as I entend sending Crafts down the River Which might as Well be loaded from the Germain as aney Where ells and thereby remedy that Foult It happened that Docter Cooke came up to the Castle express With dispatches from you about publick Business, by Which dispatch You directed me to Give the Charge of the Germain to Mr. Fitzgibbons and no one ells (assigning for a Reason) that he knew the River best. I was desiourus of taking the advantage of Doctor Cooke's return to send down a

Craft load of Stores out of the Germain Which I considered Would leighten the Germain considerable ; and this I considered a matter of great consequence as She Was leaking considerable and none but sick people on Board her to pump. I was on Board the night I sent the Craft to be loaded being the evening of the 30th December and perceived She had Very few things in her I therefore As soon as I got on Shore told Fitzgibbons to goe on Board the Germain and see that the craft alongside Was properly loaded to goe down the River Under the care of Doctor Cooke Fitzgibbons accordingly Whent on Board early next morning to see the Craft proper loaden Agreable to my Orders ; but Was prevented from putting any thing more into her by Captain Tod, Who showed a great desier of keeping every thing on board that Was then in the Germain and using every means in his power to get more things on Board her not Withstanding the great depth She lay in the Water and the impossibillity of keeping her cleare of Water Captain Tod therefore Was the sole means of that Craft going down the River With not above a third of her loaden in. Captain Tod, soon after the Craft Whent away came to Breackfast With Mr. Despard and myself Which he often used to do When to my great surprise he asked me if I had spoke to Fitzgibbons about going down the River as Pilot to the Germain, To Which I made answer, When the Germain goes down the River it is Generall Kembles directions to me that Mr. Fitzgibbons shall take Charge of her down the River, Captain Tod then told me that if I wanted aney thing out of the Germain to let him know for he intended to carry her down the River the next day nor could he see What Use She was of remaining at the Castle, at this time the Germain Was mutch too deeply loaden mad Water Very fast had neither anchor nor cable suffitiont to drop her down the River, nor had she either hands or provisions I told Captain Tod that the Germain should not move from Where She lay Un-

till I thought proper to Order her away. To this Captain Tod replyed (in a Very essuming and impertinent manner,) that he commanded; here and no one should stop him from carrying down the Germain for that he could loose the Roape and set her A drift, To this I made no replye but Wrote immediatly An Order to Fitzgibbons to goe on Board the Germain and take the Command of her Untill further orders, in a short time after I sent Fitzgibbons this Order, Captain Tod asked me if I had appointed Fitzgibbons to the Command of the Germain Over his head Without acquainting him of it, I told him I had appointed Fitzgibbons to take the Command of the Germain and that the manner in which he obliged me to do it did not require any Civillity of the kind further telling him that he had nothing whatever to do With the Germain, that he never had any appointment to her and that therefore I had only to thank him for the trouble he had taken in Fitzgibbons absence. Captain Tod replyed to this in a Very impertinent manner that I nor no Lieut. in the 60th Regiment Commanded him for that he had got the Governors Commission Which gave him the Rank of Captain and that he would do With the Germain Wat he pleased telling me I might send Fitzgibbons on Board as a Pilot but he Would have the Command of her in spite of me or aney one Ells again desiering me if I wanted aney thing out of her that I might have them by applying to him and that I should only Bring myself into Trouble by appointing: Fitzgibbons over his head which was a thing he would not Suffer.

Captain Tod soon after this saw Fitzgibbon and told him to hold himself in readyness to goe down the River With him the next morning, This Fitzgibbons came and told me of when I deseired he would follow no orders but those he received from me, Fitzgibbons came to me again on the same day and told me that he had been on Board the Germain agreable to my Orders but could get no Charge of her from Captain

Tod who obstructed every thing that he ordered to be done, telling him again to git ready to goe down the River next morning upon Which Captain Tod loosed her from Where She lay and hoisted his Coullers, The matter now I thought became serious: and in Order to prevent Captain Tod from carrying down the Germain (Which he Was about to do) in direct opposition to my orders, I was under the necessity of sending A fille of men to take Captain Tod prisoner from on Board the Germain and Bring him on Shore Which Was done I then sent Mr Fitzgibbons (Who had hitherto been prevented from excicuting my Orders by Captain Tod) on board the Germain to bring her immediatly Up to the place Where Captain Tod *had* loosed her from, This Conduct of Captain Tod's led me to believe he had some design to take away the Germain Without aney intentions of Carrying her to the harbour, as a further proof of his having no good design in what he was about it Will be necessary to inform you there Where two six pound Brass Guns lying in two Crafts Ready to be sent down the River Which he threw out of the Crafts into the Water and was therefore the means of those two Guns being left behind for the Want of rope, to Weigh them With Other Wise they certainly Would have been sent down the River provided on examination the Crafts had been found suffitiont; Captain Tod will no doubt say that the Crafts Where good for nothing particularly as he had turned two adrift Without my knowledge saying that they where good for nothing, but What can he say when I affirm as a truth that one of the Crafts which he had turned adrift from the Castle, Was picked Up by Mr. Despard in his Way to the harbour, Who tooke Out three tunn Weight out of the Germain put it into this Craft and Whent down to the Rivers mouth With her, and this Very Craft proved to be more Use to Us than any other Wee had with Us.

Mr. Despard Was present When the most of this happened and Was a Witness to a vast deal of Captain

Tods impertinence, inclosed are three papers Which Where brought to me by the persons Who's names are there mentioned which may serve to show you the manner in which my orders were treated I had frequently told Captain Tod that I expected he Would make up a sufficient number of Ball Cartrages for the Germains Guns and to have her in every respect ready for action for fear the Ennemy should attempt to cut us off from Our boats this however he payed no sort of attention to but still continued desirous of getting more stores on Board though there was mutch more in her at this time than she was able to carry I hope you will be of opinion that what I have could not be avoided as flatter myself it was done for the good of the service. I have the honor to remain with Greatest respect, Sir,

Your most obedt. and Very humble Servt.,

Geo. Brown, Lieut. 60th Regiment.

To Brig.-Gen. Kemble.

(Enclosures.)

31st. December, 1780. at 6 o'Clock Gerald Fitz-Gibbon Went on board the Germain by Order of the Commanding officer of St. John's Castle to Load a Craft bound down the River, but was hindered by Capt. Todd; at 9 o'Clock went on board in Order to take Command, but Capt. Todd would not Deliver the Command as per Order of the Commanding officer, Declairing he would Loose his life first, and that he would not obeay the Commanding officer's orders, and that he was Commanding officer of this pleace himself, as Also that he was Supperer to any Left. in the Army, and *that if Mr. Brown Did not* Know it he, the said Todd, would let him Know it.

Present at the time, Gerald FitzGibbon, Corpl. Sayers, Since Sergt. Sayers.

Endorsed. (First paper of FitzGibbon's).

On or about the 27th. December, 1780, Capt. Todd Ordered a dorey for Oranges and plantains without

Liberty of the Commanding officer. On Enquiry said Todd made Mention that Mr. Brown should ask his liberty ; that he, the said Todd, was Commanding officer. These transactions happened on board the Germain.

Thos. Sayers.
John Wilson.

Dec. 31st. at about 12 Gerald FitzGibbon was Ordered on board the Germain the Second time, in Order to take Charge to hale her to her proper Station, and there to Moor her, as then She Lay in the Current and in Danger of going adrift, rideng but with two rotten roaps, but Mr. Todd still refused even that I should Move her without his Liberty, and that I was to follow his Derection and Instroction, Otherwise he, the said Todd, would not let her be moved from where She then Lay'd, with which he Drew out An Instrument of writing, presenting to Me, on which I refused takeing, telling him that I was to follow no other but the Commanding officer's instructions. He, the Said Todd, made Answer that he was Commanding officer, and that he would Sooner loose his Life than his Authority, and also mentioned that he would go down the River the Next day, and Desired Me to get men for that purpose, Saying that Every person in the River was Under him, and if I Chused to go down the River that he would Deliver the Command to me at the River's Mouth, and that I was to follow his Directions and Not Mr. Brown's, on which I refused the Said Todd's Orders.

Witnesses : Gerald FitzGibbon,
John Wilson,
Thos. Sayers.

Endorsed (Second Paper of FitzGibbon.)

When I went on Board the Germain by Order of the Commanding Officer With a Guard to fetch Mr. Todd on Shore, he then went into the Cabbin. I told him I was sent by the Commanding Officer to Fetch him on Shore ; he then asked me who the Command-

ing Officer was ; I then told him it was Lieut. Brown, of the 60th. Regiment ; he then said he was Commanding Officer ; I said I never understood he had the Command, but the orders I received from Lieut. Brown I would obey ; he then Desired I Should show him my orders in Writing ; I then Made answer that the Orders I received was a verbal Order from Lieut. Brown, and that I came in Consequence of that Order ; he then said he would not Come on Shore Unless he was brought by force, and that I might Depend upon it he would make Lieut. Brown and me Suffer for it, and insisted he should be handed out, which was done by one of the Guard that was sent for him ; on Comming away from the Boat he Desired he might have his small sword with him, Upon which I took his small sword (which he wanted from me), but I refused to give it to him, and Left it in Charge of the Guard.

James Coughran, Acting Serjeant-Major.
Patt McNamara, Corporal.
Patt Burke.

St. John's Castle, 31st. Dec., 1780.

Sir :

In consequence of your instructions to Capt. Dixon for Destroying St. John's Castle, which he received about the middle of December last (1780), he immediately ordered me to put them in execution by every possible means ; but it was the 18th. following before the Negroes could be spared from bringing up the Germain to her former station, and from whence she had been driven by the Flood to work at the mines ; but so soon as that necessary business was completed I set all hands to work at Sinking shafts of mines in different parts of the Rampart, twenty of which were on the 1st. of January following ready for loading and springing. Accordingly, on the 2d. of January, I sprung two mines in the North Curtain, which carried away the Rampart from the foundation

for the space of 36 feet, destroyed the right flank of the North West Bastion, and carried away a considerable part of the foundation of the Tower, which Building is also split from Top to Bottom.

The day following being the third of January, the Spaniards made their appearance, and Lieut. Browne ordered me to load as many of the Mines as could be completed by 12 o'Clock that night, the hour appointed by him for withdrawing the Garrison. I therefore set about preparing the Tower Shaft for springing, and likewise one of those in the Middle of the Southern Curtain, which were both complete by the appointed time, and the Troops having embarked, I set fire to the fuses, and proceeded down the River. I cannot speak with accuracy as to the effects of these two Mines; but having gone up from the Lookout Island on the 5th. following to the Castle in order to reconnoitre the Ruins, I perceived that the Tower was rent in several places and dispersed about the Fort. The Governor's house with the Southern store thrown down, and a large Bulk of Masonry carried down the Glaces of the Southern front, which I suppose to be part of the Rampart opposite thereto.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient, Humble Servant,

E. N. Despard, Chief Engineer.

Endorsed. Mr. Despard's account of having destroyed St. Juan's.

Jamaica, 20th. April, 1781.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed you will receive a State of the Accoutrements of 1st. Battalion, 60th. Regiment, agreeable to a survey in December last, with a Return of Arms on 24th. same month, and a Clothing Certificate for the year 1780.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Messrs. Gray and Ogilvie, Agents.

Jamaica, 24th. April, 1781.

Gentlemen :

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of 22d. March, 1780, and 7th. Feb., 1781. The Accoutrements of the Battalion are examined from time to time, and all possible care taken of them, but we suffer much in our appearance for the want of being uniform.

My health requiring a Change of Air, I have many affairs to be adjusted by Col. Prevost, who I hope will acquaint you of his having found a purchaser for Mr. Priddie's Ensigncy, by the time the Packet sails.

Enclosed is a Return of Arms and Accoutrements lost on the Spanish Main, and I think, in Justice to the Colonel of the Battalion, application should be made to Government to make these losses good; the nature of the Service and every other consideration pleads strongly in the Colonel's favour. Had the whole of the regiment gone on that fatal Expedition, they would most probably have met with a similar fate to those that did go, and where these heavy losses arise from unavoidable accidents, and not from any neglect, the attention of Government will not be withheld.

You have also enclosed the proceedings of a Court of Enquiry on the Clothing lately received from England.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Messrs. Gray and Ogilvie, Agents.

Spanish-Town, 9th. May, 1781.

Gentlemen :

I am to acquaint you that Lieut. Palmer has given in a Memorial, to Sell his Commission, and Ensign Brownrigg is Recommended by the Governor to Succeed to the Lieutenancy ; but should there be any delay in Money matters, Ensign Coghlan is the next for Purchase, and beg he may be immediately

recommended for it, provided his Money is lodged in your hands. Mr. William James Stevenson, a Gentleman of an unexceptionable Character, is Approved of and recommended to succeed to Mr. Priddie's Ensigncy; and as soon as he, or any other Gentleman on his part, has lodged in Your Hands the Amount of Mr. Priddie's Bills, drawn in favour of Major Phillips, you will then forward the Resignation of Mr. Priddie in favour of Mr. Stevenson with all dispatch. Lieut. Palmer has agreed that his Ensigncy shall be sold for whatever it will bring after the expiration of three months, but it must not go for less than Three Hundred Guineas prior to that time being elapsed. I have advanced him £39, 5, 2 1-2 Sterling, to extricate him out of some difficulties; and when his Commission is sold, I must beg you will Credit my Account with that Sum, as I have his Obligation for that purpose. Should any Bills be presented to you Drawn by Mr. Palmer, on account of the sale of his Commission, you will pay them, as far as the Money left in Your hands will go; should there be any Balance coming to him after that, you will please to acquaint me with it by the earliest opportunity.

And am, Gentlemen, &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To Messrs. Gray and Ogilvie, Agents.

Spanish Town, 25th. May, 1781.

Sir:

In consequence of a Note from Mr. Secretary Barry of the 1st. inst., acquainting me it was your Excellency's desire to see my Journal of the Expedition to St. Juan's Castle, I have the honour to send you the following for your perusal, being the most circumstantial account I am able to give of my proceedings, and that liable to errors; as it is taken from a few Memorandums only, my health having been so much interrupted from time to time as to render it impossi-

ble for me to keep a regular and exact Journal. But in Order that your Excellency may be as fully informed as possible, I shall begin this Narrative from my arrival at the Harbour of St. Juan's on the 20th. April, 1780, not anything having happened during the Passage from Jamaica that requires to be inserted.

St. Juan's Harbour, April 21st., 1780. Having received information by letter from the Store keeper of Artillery to Capt. Thomson of the Ship Horatio, that Col. Polson was before the Castle of St. Juan and in want of four pound round Shot, I embraced a very handsome offer from Capt. Fotheringham, of the Navy, to forward such Troops and Stores as I should think proper to send up the River by the Boats of the King's Ships, not one Boat belonging to the Expedition being then at the harbour; A Detachment of Troops, a quantity of Stores, and two 5 1-2 inch Howitzers were accordingly ordered to be got in immediate readiness for River Service, but it was the 23d. before they proceeded, owing in a great measure to heavy rains.

Acquainted Col. Polson by Letter that I had not a boat to proceed up the River, and that I could not move without his assistance.

April 22d. Landed with the Engineer and fixed upon a spot to erect a Battery for the defence of the Harbour, agreeable to the first paragraph of my instructions.

April 24th. In the Evening Capt. Thomson of the Black River Company arrived from the Castle for provisions, was dispatched on his return the next day.

April 28th. In the morning Mr. Shaw the Commissary arrived from the Castle with nine Craft for Provisions, which set off on their return in the evening. Mr. Shaw left the Castle on the 25th.; there were then only seven days' short allowance remaining for the Troops under Col. Polson's command.

May 2d. Wrote to Col. Polson to order two Officers in Arrest for quitting their Detachments on the River.

May 3d. to 7th. Several parties of Indians came down the River, having quit Col. Polson in a clandestine manner. The Spanish Garrison arrived at the harbour, escorted by a small Detachment of Troops, and the remainder of the Indians, who were sickly, dispirited, and appeared to be discontented; understood they intended going off to a Man, with their Craft (A Boat used by the Mosquito Indians), some of which I was under a necessity of seizing to carry on the Service. Major Dalrymple and myself employed every means in our power to retain them, but to no effect; they received your presents, gave you fair words in the day, and deserted at night. The total defection of the Indians left me no Alternative, and I was obliged to employ Soldiers to Navigate boats heavy loaden with Provisions and Stores; but my Letters to your Excellency of the 24th. April, 4th. and 5th. May, and 7th. May to Brig.-Gen. Campbell, are explicit on these as well as other subjects, and my opinion that Negroes would be necessary to carry on the Service fully.

May 8th. Having settled all business at the Harbour in the best manner I was able, set off for the Castle, leaving Major Dalrymple to forward the Boats with Provisions, stores, &c., &c.

May 11th. Passed the Germain armed Vessel (resembling a Raddeau) about 35 Miles from the Harbour, the difficulty of getting her on represented to be very great from the rapidity of the current.

May 15th. Arrived at the Castle, and found everything in disorder from the Sickly state of Troops, not having relief for the necessary Guards.

May 16th. Ordered all the Plank, Timber, &c., in and about the Castle to be reserved for public use, foreseeing the service we should have for it, and the impossibility of getting more. The Officers Col. Polson was ordered to put in Arrest, having made an Apology for leaving their Detachments, were released. Mr. Wright, an Officer in the Indian Department, was ordered to proceed to the head of the River, examine

the adjacent borders of the Lake, and bring the fullest information in his power of everything that merited his attention.

May 17th. to 19th. Employed in looking into the state of matters in general and giving such directions as appeared to me most conducive to the good of the Service. The Sickly of the Troops increasing, I was obliged to reduce the Guards to almost nominal.

May 20th. Mr. Wright returned from the head of the River, and reported his having seen two Vessels at a distance in the Lake, but no appearance of the Enemy taking Post at the head of the river.

May 25th. Was informed the Germain armed Vessel had got to the Falls, and immediately dispatched Capts. Thomson and Patterson with some rope and thirty Men to assist in getting her over them.

May 26th. to June 2d. Was in so violent a Fever as to be incapable of business of any sort.

June 3d. to 9th. Mr. Shaw the Commissary and Capt. Collins, arrived from the Harbour, and informed me that I might expect Craft with Troops and Provisions, but that they found great difficulty from inexperience, sickness, &c., to get on. Our supplies arriving but slowly, and having but too much reason to apprehend a scarcity of Provisions, I ordered two-thirds allowance only to be issued, and to lessen the consumption sent a number of the sick to the Harbour. The Lord Germain arrived at the Castle; her movements since she got to the Falls were much facilitated by the presence and attention of Major MacDonald, who voluntarily offered his services on the occasion. Continued so much disordered as to be capable of little or no business. The Troops so sickly that some Corps had scarcely a Man for duty, and the few Guards we had obliged to remain two or three days before they could be relieved; Ordered Capt. Colvil of the 79th. Regt. to the Harbour to take charge of the Sick, with directions to use every means in his power to get them fresh Provisions and every other comfort. Capt.

Thomson of the Black River Company was at the same time ordered to the harbour, to direct in the Craft Department, having observed how necessary it was to have a Person there experienced in the Navigation of the river to procure Guides, &c., &c.

June 11th. The Germain armed Vessel was got over the rapids at the Castle, and the few Carpenters able to work employed in repairing her; the Master then promised to have her ready for service in seven or eight days. Ordered Lieut. Despard, the Engineer, to the head of the River, to make his observations on the Country, &c., &c.

June 13th. The Engineer returned and informed me the Spaniards had taken Post at the head of the river.

June 14th. The Engineer and Capt. Davis, of the Jamaica Volunteers, left the Castle in the evening for the head of the river, to get every possible intelligence of the Enemy's situation, strength, &c., &c.

June 15th. to 20th. Ensign Plees, of 60th. Regiment, arrived with a large boat intended to be armed, but we had not Carpenters to work on her; and, notwithstanding the unremitted attention of Majors Dalrymple and MacDonald, the repairs of the Germain went on but slowly, though every Carpenter able to work was employed. The Officers and Soldiers that came from the harbour from time to time were so reduced by sickness that it was with the utmost difficulty they got to the Castle, to which, and the ignorance of many in the management of boats, must be ascribed the great loss of Stores, Provisions, &c.

June 21st. The Engineer and Capt. Davis returned from the head of the river, and reported their having seen two Vessels moored in the entrance of the river, apparently armed, and supposed to be about 60 tons each; that the Spaniards were busily employed on a Redoubt, which was in great forwardness, and an Abbattis, or Trees felled at all angles to the point of the River. Sent 21 Men to the falls to assist some Craft over.

Report of Capt. Davis.

Received June 21, 1780.

On the 15th. June, at 11 o'Clock at night, arrived at a small Creek, where we hauled up our dory and pitpan, and next morning Proceeded to Cut a path thro' the woods, the party then consisting of 11 Men and a Serjeant, Directed by Mr. Despard, Engineer, Continued cutting the Path all that and the next day, which I suppose to be about a Mile in length, & on the 19th. I advanced with one Man, making the smallest trace I could; at 12 o'Clock the Man (from the top of an High Tree) acquainted me he saw the Enemy.

I immediately Climbed to the top, and Discovered a Schooner & Sloop, moored as laid down in the annexed Sketch. In the Schooner, I think I observed four Port Holes in her side, but no Guns out; in the Sloop three, with one Gun on each side. On an Eminence 60 feet perpendicular from the Surface of the Water, and just at the Point, I saw the Enemy Busily Employed in erecting a Battery, Parapets composed of Logs filled with Earth; that side of the Hill facing ye River appears to be well Defended by an Abbattis, or trees felled at all angles to the Point, where there Seems to be a passage or Communication with ye River. The whole inclosure on the East Side is made up of an Indifferent fence of Poles and Stoccadoes.

The Ground on the opposite side from where I observed the Enemy is all Marshy & low, but not in my Opinion altogether Impassable for Cannon. On the 20th. I went nearer the Enemy, and Searched around for high or firm ground attended by one Man, the party then Consisting of 3 Men I ordered to Remain at a Certain Spot till my Return or they heard from me, and Continued to make my observations, But found at my Return they were gone; when I came up to Mr. Despard & found they had not come to him, I dispatched four Men in search of them who at 11 o'Clock at Night Returned Without any account of them. I immediately

View of part of the Lake
Nicaragua
With the Entrance
Into
St. Johns River

ordered the Men to bring the dory and Embarked the Remainder of the Party with Mr. Despard Myself, apprehending the consequence of Desertion; Leaving however a Pitpan and 3 Paddles, in case this had not been the Case, to Enable them to Return.

Edward Davis, Capt. J. R. V.

June 22d. Mr. Shaw the Commissary proceeded to the harbour for the greater dispatch of Provisions, that essential article beginning to fall so short as to alarm me; empowered him to send Persons to Negotiate with the Indians (Mosquito Indians, who had returned Home greatly dissatisfied), furnish them presents, and to procure Men to Navigate the Craft upon any terms.

June 24th. to 26th. Capt. McIntosh, of the Germain armed Vessel, having appeared very deficient in his duty, Major MacDonald was appointed to superintend and take the Command of her upon all occasions where he should find it necessary.

June 26th. The Germain proceeded up the river, though not in the best condition; but as everything we could think of was put on board her, I hoped she would soon be in tolerable order. The Carpenters were then employed in repairing the Craft and completing a Gunboat that was in hand before the Germain arrived. Meditated upon quitting the Castle and falling down to the harbour with the Majority of the Troops, on account of the scarcity of Provisions, and uncommon sickness that prevailed; but the possession of the Lake being an object of such great importance, I determined to risk everything to accomplish it.

June 29th. Sent Capt. Lamb to the Falls to know Why the Craft were detained; was informed a number of the Black River Negroes ordered to their assistance had deserted, taking off one of our most useful boats, which occasioned the delay; and necessity obliging us to press these People with constant labour, they de-

serted fast, or if ever suffered to go to the harbour never returned. We were now reduced to seven days' Provisions at two-thirds allowance, but I depended upon the Abilities and Activity of Messrs. Shaw and Thomson that the Troops would not want. Much rain for some days past, and every appearance of the wet season having set in.

June 30th. to July 2d. Seven Craft arrived from the falls, most of them thirty odd days on the river, and great part of their Provisions damaged from constant rains. Wrote Mr. Shaw to let me know the situation of affairs relative to the transportation of Provisions from the Harbour with all expedition, that I might take measures to preserve the lives of the Troops, and to hold the Castle, which I then feared I should be obliged to abandon.

July 3d. Was greatly relieved at the receipt of a Letter from Sir Alexander Leith, informing me of his arrival at the harbour with a Corps of Batteaux Men, and that no time should be lost in forwarding Provisions. The Detachment of the 60th. and 79th. Regiments were ordered to proceed up the river to assist the Germain over the rapids, if necessary, but not an Officer of either of those Corps able to proceed with them.

July 6th. Sir Alexander Leith arrived at the Castle ill of a fever ; assured me I should receive one hundred and thirty barrels of Provisions by his Corps, and that his first division of boats might be expected the day following at the Falls.

July 7th. The Troops having been victualled to the 8th inclusive, the repairs of the Craft completed, the necessary Stores put on board, with six days' Provisions (all we had), the whole proceeded up the river, in all 250, one hundred of which were convalescents, but turned out with alacrity, and showed a spirit that did them honour.

July 8th. Proceeded up the river myself, and was astonished to find the Germain scarcely through the

rapids. Was informed she had Grounded, and was extricated from the Rocks only the Night before by a considerable rise of Water.

Sir Alexander Leith's health not permitting him to proceed, he was left to Command at the Castle. Capt. Polson, two days only out of a fever, the only Officer with me in the staff line or to assist me upon any occasion. Violent rains all the latter part of this day and Night.

July 9th. Pushed forward to where the easy-running Waters commence, and fixed upon Ground to Encamp on.

July 10th. Having observed that some of the Craft would require assistance to pass the rapids, Capt. Collins was ordered to their Aid with spare hands and a small supply of Provisions. The Germain proceeded up the River. The Troops in Camp victualed to 12th. inclusive.

July 11th. Being so very short of Provisions, I determined to remain for supplies, especially as the great object was surmounted (that of getting over the rapids); recommended it to the Troops to be careful of their Provisions, as they might be obliged to live a day extraordinary on what they had received.

July 12th. Directed the Officer Commanding the Germain to remain where he was till further orders. Dispatched a Pitpan (resembling an Albany Canoe) to the Castle upon a report that Provisions were arrived there. Major Dalrymple returned from the Germain ill of a fever, and proceeded to the Castle. The Officers in general ill. Sent several to the Castle, as well as sick Soldiers. We were then reduced to two days' short allowance of Flour, but more Pork. Much rain these two days past.

July 13th. The Pitpan returned from the Castle with a Puncheon of Rum, but no Provisions. Was mortified to hear from Sir Alexander Leith that the report of its arrival was false. The Troops at the Castle subsisted a day or two about this time on Indian Corn,

and those in Camp this day extra on what they received the 10th.

July 14th. Issued one day's Provision at short allowance. Distributed Powder and Shot to Men of each Corps to kill Monkey, etc., as well to divert their thoughts as to procure some small addition to their scanty fare. Went to inspect the Germain; supposed her to be about eight miles above the Encampment.

July 15th. Issued one day's Provision. A Pitpan from the Castle; but to my inconceivable disappointment, she brought Indian Corn only, and that full of Weavles. Capt. Davis returned from viewing the Enemy's works at the head of the River, and informed me the Vessels were in almost the same position as before; that the Spaniards were hard at work, and the Redoubt appeared to be near complete.

July 16th. Issued one day's Provision. The Troops received Corn instead of Flour. Removed my Encampment about two miles higher up the River.

July 17th. Having still a residue of Pork, was enabled to distribute as the day before. Received three Barrels of Flour and one of Pork—the first supply I had from Sir Alexander Leith's Batteaux Corps, but far short of what was necessary to enable me to proceed up the River, and served to victual the Troops as follows: For 18th. and 19th., four Ounces of Pork, six of Flour, and a pint of Corn; 20th., Two ounces of Pork, nine of Flour, and half a pint of Corn. An almost general indisposition among the Officers, and the Soldiers falling off fast.

July 18th. Impatient at not receiving a supply of Provisions sufficient to enable me to proceed, and desirous of knowing the true state of affairs, I ordered Capt. Polson to the Castle, from whose steadiness and knowledge I had reason to expect a just and impartial account. Went to inspect the Germain in the morning; found her much improved and in tolerable good order.

July 20th. and 21st. Major MacDonald and Capt. Davis proposed attempting to surprise the Vessels at

the head of the River—an idea I had entertained; and coming from Officers who pretended to know a little of Sea affairs, I instantly entered into their scheme. Issued two days' Provision, but my Memorandums do not explain when received, though some small supply must have come from the Castle to enable me to do it. Capt. Davis in his way to the Castle surprised a canoe with three Indians and as many Spaniards (Deserters from the Legion), who were on their way to the Post at the head of the River; and though the Deserters were taken, all our entreaties and offers of presents to bring the Indians to an interview were ineffectual.

July 22d. Capt. Polson returned from the Castle with three Barrels of Flour, five of Pork, and one of Herring (which, on calculation, would only serve seven or eight days at short allowance), and acquainted me it was all I had a right to expect for some time; that one boat belonging to Sir Alexander Leith's first Division was missing, and his second Division not even heard of; that the waters were very much raised, and the difficulty of the Navigation increased so much that he was apprehensive of the consequences, and that they had not above three or four days' Provisions left at the Castle. Sent the sick to the Castle, and ordered everything to be in readiness to move the next morning, with a view of surprising the Vessels if I could do no more.

July 23d. Lieut. Despard, our only Engineer, having been left sick at the Castle, joined me Yesterday with Capt. Polson, and proceeded this day to reconnoiter the Spanish Post, in order that a mode of attack might be formed, but the Weather being very bad I could not move the Troops without subjecting them to great inconveniencies. The Troops received three days' Provisions to 25th. inclusive.

July 24th. Proceeded forwards about nine Miles, and within eight of the Spanish Post, as computed by those that had been at the Lake, leaving the Germain two miles in our rear, the wind not permitting her to move, and encamped, thinking it improper to proceed

further without the Germain ; during the course of the day reflected upon the scheme of boarding the Vessels, and laid it aside in my own mind, not having boats proper for the purpose and the situation of the Vessels such as to make it impossible to come upon them by surprise. In the evening the Engineer returned, and informed me he had been able to get a good view of the Redoubt ; that it was strong and appeared to be completely finished ; that it was capable of holding between two and three hundred men ; that two Armed Vessels were moored across the River and defended the entrance into the Lake, which Vessels were from the narrowness of the Channel protected even by Musketry from the Redoubt ; that the Attack of the Redoubt from the River must be very disadvantageous to the Assailants, and the access thereto covered by a strong Abbattis from the edge of the river to the foot of the Hill ; that he was discovered by a Canoe of the Enemy's and the Alarm given ; of course, no prospect of surprising them ; and giving it as his opinion that in the present situation of affairs the Attack of either Redoubt or Vessels would be throwing away Lives without a probability of success. All these things considered, with the weak state of the Troops, having scarcely eighty Men for duty ; the alarming prospect of a total want of Provisions, only five or six days' short allowance left ; from the increasing rains and rapidity of the Current ; from the sickness of the Officers, having but three or four fit for duty, Major MacDonald much reduced by an Ague, Capt. Polson lame, and in a fever myself ; with the necessary caution to preserve a sufficient quantity of Provisions to subsist a Garrison to be left at the Castle, till more could be sent,—determined me to return the next day, a step much approved by Major MacDonald, Capt. Polson, and every Officer to whom I thought proper to disclose my intentions.

July 25th. Returned to the Castle and ordered the Germain to take her position below the rapids till further orders ; was so extremely ill that the Surgeon did not

think it proper to remove me from my boat for the Night.

July 26th. Upon inquiry I found Sir Alexander Leith had not Provision left to serve the Troops at the Castle one day, and no prospect of more coming up the River ; ordered a large Detachment of sick to proceed to the Harbour immediately, and the rest to follow as fast as possible.

July 27th. Ordered the Troops to be inspected by the Surgeon-General, and the names of one hundred and fifty of the most healthy to be given me, being the number intended to be left in Garrison.

July 28th. Having wrote to Sir Alexander Leith, when up the River, to send a Pitpan (left expressly with him) to the Harbour if Provisions could not be got nearer, was astonished at her returning this day with the Master Carpenter and others from the Falls, but without an ounce of Provisions. Alarmed at so serious a disappointment, I had recourse to Capt. Lamb's assiduity and knowledge of the River, who was instantly ordered down for a load of Flour, and to whose industry the preservation of the Castle at that time may be ascribed.

July 29th. to 31st. Having completed my instructions for Sir Alexander Leith, and settled matters in the best manner the situation of affairs would admit, I proceeded on my way to the Harbour and lay at Isle Bartholo, or Lookout Island, from whence Sir Alexander Leith was wrote to, to send for three Spanish Craft that lay there, supposed to have gone adrift from the Castle, and would be of Infinite use to him should he be obliged for want of Provisions to quit the place. He had then at least ten days' allowance for his Garrison, at six ounces of Pork and a quart of Corn per Man, besides a large quantity of Plantains and Bananas collected by my order and distributed to the Troops.

August 1st. In passing the Rapids I was fortunate enough to save eleven Men from perishing, whose Craft had been wrecked on the rocks.

August 2d. Met Capt. Lamb on his return to the Castle, who had gone to Cooke's Post, within fifteen or sixteen miles of the Harbour, before he could get Provisions, not one boat being then on the River; proceeded to Cooke's Post where I remained for the Night; received dispatches from Jamaica of 23d. June, with Letters from Mr. Shaw and Capt. Thomson from the Harbour, complaining of Sir Alexander Leith's disregard of my orders to them for the conveyance of Provisions, and to whose conduct upon that occasion may be ascribed the entire failure of supplies, as the Letters from those Gentlemen will more fully explain. In the Evening four small and one large Craft arrived from the Harbour on their way to the Castle.

August 3d. Having dispatched the boats with the strictest orders to be expeditious, I proceeded to the Harbour, and understanding the Pelican was to sail the next day for Jamaica, I requested the Officer Commanding the Navy to detain her 24 hours, which was complied with.

Having thus far arranged my proceedings under their several dates with as much exactness as possible, I must now request your Excellency will accept the sequel in few words, which I should not offer in so concise a manner, did my health permit me to pursue it in detail.

My Letters to your Excellency from the time I returned to the Harbour of St. John's give a general idea of my transactions at that place; but the melancholy situation in which I found the Troops on my arrival there, the distress I was drove to for Men to navigate Craft with Provisions for the support of the few Troops left at the Castle, the numerous and unlucky accidents that happened to the shipping without a hope of repairing them, the impossibility of getting fresh Provisions for the sick but by extraordinary exertions, and then in small quantities, and the amazing mortality that raged among the Troops though every comfort in my power was administered—may be faintly described;

but words cannot express my feelings at such a complicated scene of misery and distress. As to my subsequent conduct at Bluefields, I apprehend no part of it requires to be elucidated, my Letters from thence being as full and as explicit as anything I could commit to paper.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c., &c.,

Stephen Kemble.

To His Excellency Gen. Dalling.

Endorsed. Journal of an Expedition up the River St. John's in Spanish America.

Report on the Mosquito Country.

The Mosquito Shore extends from the River St. John's 10° 30 minutes North Latitude, and 81:40 West Longitude, to Cape Honduras, or the Point of Castile, in 16 degrees North Latitude and 85 West Longitude. The Mosquito Men, however, extend their pretensions to the Island and Harbour of Boca Toro, in — degrees N. Lat. and — W. Long., in right of their having Conquered and destroyed the actual Indian possessors; from Cape Honduras or the point of Castile, the Western boundary, to Cape Cameron, the distance is 20 Leagues; due East from thence to Cape Gracias a Dios, in 15 degrees N. Latitude, the Coast trenches About two points more or less to the Southward of East, distance 55 Leagues; from this to the River St. John's the Coast runs almost due South, distance almost 90 Leagues. The Descendants of the Ancient Mosquito Indians of pure unmixed Blood possess the Coast and Country aback from the Bluefields to Sandy Bay; from thence as far as Plantain River, Sandy Bay included, is possessed by a race of Sambos who derive their origin from a Cargo of Negroes Wrecked on this Coast about 100 Years ago, who were Incorporated with the Indians on this part of the Coast.

During the Season of fishing for Turtle the Mosquito Men, as they are generally called, dwell upon the Sea

Coast; that is, from the beginning of May to the end of September, When they retire a considerable distance up the river and Lagoons, thinking themselves safer there from Floods and Gales of Wind; there they continue until the return of the Turtle season, shifting their abode According as they are led by the game and fruits in season. In describing this Country to your Excellency I shall begin at the River St. Juan, and proceed along Cape Honduras, otherwise called the point of Castile.

The River St. Juan, in 10 degrees 30 minutes N. Lat., on its falling into the North Sea, forms a Commodious harbour, where Ships of the largest size may lie in the greatest safety; about 30 miles above its mouth stands the Castle of St. Juan; it is easy to get behind this Castle, as was done during the Spanish War in 1761 by a party of a few White Men and Mosquito Men, who fired their Muskets against the Castle and would have taken it, had they been possessed of a single piece of Cannon.

From the Castle to Granado, situated on the further bank of the great Lake towards the South Sea, is navigated by flat-bottomed Schooners and Pettiagues in two days; a number of small Towns lie round the Lake; from the Town of Granado to Massaia, a large Indian Town where the Governor of the Province frequently resides, is distant 3 Leagues; from this place to the City of Leon, the Capital of the Province and See of a Bishop, Loaded Mules travel in 3 days; from Leon to Rio Lecho, a middling town and Harbour in the South Sea, is two days' Journey further for loaded Mules. The country is open and dry, full of Towns and Villages, and abounding with Necessaries of every kind. The Militia consists of a body of ill disciplined horse and worse foot. About 10 Miles North of St. John's River lies Indian River, running about 40 Miles into the Country; the banks of this River, from its source to its falling into the Sea, are remarkably fertile and adapted to the raising of every West India

production. 12 miles North of this lies Corn River, in the length of its course and fertility of its banks entirely similar to Indian River. 20 Miles North lies Pointa Gourda River; the Extraordinary fertility of the Country along the banks of this River justly entitles it to a first rank amongst the rivers on this Coast. A Branch of this River, navigable for what we call Pitpans, some of which are 44 feet long and 4 feet over and will carry 40 men, leads into the River of St. Juan. Above the Castle a party of the famous Buccaneers formerly resided on this River, one of whose grand Children was alive when I was there a few Years ago. It was also Inhabited by a tribe of the Best disposed Indians I ever saw, called Rama's, who were well acquainted with the Great Lake, but were unfortunately dispersed a few Years Ago, through the oppression of some very bad Englishmen who had Settled amongst them. I very lately recovered one of them from Slavery, and intend sending him, with a few more I expect to obtain, to endeavour, if possible. to bring back their scattered brethren to their old habitations.

The banks of this river abound in the highest degree with game, such as Waree or Mexican Hog, Picarree, Mountain Cow, Deer, Gibbonet, Indian Rabbit, and also Wild Fowl, such as Quams, Currasoes. ground Partridge; the Cocoa tree is a native of the Country and found everywhere, and is deemed equal to the best Caracas Cocoa. 14 Leagues North of this lies Bluefields Lagoon and river, in 11°: 30 minutes N. Latitude. Vessels carry 14 feet water into this Lagoon, which forms a very fine Harbour; it is commanded by a bluff, which might be fortified at a very small Expense. West from the Bluff lies Bluefields River, navigable for Pitpans to the Spanish Savanahs, where an army might soon be landed by means of boats built in this Country. The Lagoon where Vessels lie is about 25 Miles in circumference, plentifully supplied with Manatee Fish and Oysters and other Shell Fish.

The Country surrounding this Lagoon is watered with abundance of fine streams, many of which take their rise in the mountains aback, and enjoys plenty of game. One Mr. Henry Corrin, who lived here some Years Ago, carried on a beneficial trade with the Spaniards up the River in a flat-bottomed Schooner of about 30 tons burthen. About 30 Miles up this river live a tribe of Indians called Cookeras, reduced to about 50 persons, including Women and Children; they are friendly, well disposed people, and Speak the English Language. 70 Miles above them live the Woolwas, a tribe belonging to a very numerous nation, where different tribes inhabit the heads of almost all the Rivers on this Coast, Viz., From Bluefields to Wank's, or Cape Gracias a Dios River. I am at present Endeavouring to bring back this Nation to their ancient friendship with us, which has often been interrupted from numbers of them having been Seized on at different times by the Mosquito Men, and sold to Vessels trading to Hispaniola, Jamaica, and North America, as well to the British Settlers on this Coast. One of their Chiefs, who had a Commission from me, has lately accepted a Spanish Commission; he was urged to this defection from the British interest by the Exceeding Ill treatment he met with from the Mosquito Men, who Seized and sold several of his relations, amongst whom were two of his brothers. He has promised to give me a meeting, when I shall do my utmost to make up this breach. I have procured one of his brothers, who is now with General Dalrymple on an Expedition to Leeward; on his return I shall send him home with such others of his Countrymen as I can procure. It would greatly facilitate my Endeavours in this way were it the good pleasure of Government to grant the sum of two thousand pounds toward purchasing such of them as are at present in a state of Slavery amongst the Mosquito Men and British Settlers along the Coast, and restoring them to their friends and Country. They would serve as

excellent guides into the Spanish Provinces. Many of them live on the Mountains which divide the North from the South Sea, and daily pass into the Spanish Towns ; but this I submit to your Excellency's superior Judgment. I cannot help here lamenting to your Excellency how very inadequate the sum allowed by the Government for contingencies is to that service.

Ten Leagues North of Bluefields lies Pearl Key Lagoon, about 10 Leagues long, with several considerable Islands in it ; the Southern entrance into this Lagoon carries 8 and 10 feet Water. I lately passed through it in a Schooner of about 30 tons, and went out at the Northern entrance with 9 feet Water ; three rivers disembogue themselves into it, Namely, Corninwas, Vavasian, and Sumoe ; it abounds with Fish and Oysters, the best on the Coast ; the Western banks are from 5 feet to twenty high, very fertile, with plenty of game and wild fowl ; Rice thrives here to admiration, bearing three Crops in the course of a Year. The Cocoa Tree grows everywhere in the Woods ; in short, whatever is planted here thrives to perfection. The remains of some tribes of Indians lead a miserable life up the Rivers leading into this Lagoon, holding no Correspondence with any person whatever, being in constant dread of the Mosquito Men.

The Pearl Quays lie from 2 to 6 Miles off the Lagoon ; large Ships may find good anchorage amongst them ; they abound in Turtle and Shell Fish. The Indians, who formerly inhabited these Quays before they were cut off by the Mosquito Men, carried on a pearl fishery, but this fell with them, having never been attempted since. Three Leagues North of Pearl Quay Lagoon lies Great River, with a large and high Bar, only to be attempted in moderate weather ; the banks near its mouth are low and proper for Rice. The Country for some distance up is covered with Forests of white and yellow Pine of a large size, with plenty of pasture for any number of Cattle and Sheep ; they are at present well stocked with Deer. In advancing up

the River the banks are high and enjoy a fertile soil fit for any plantation use. Pitpans can go up to the Spanish Savanahs. 13 Leagues North of this lies Walpa Sexa, one of the mouths of a River, which runs about 100 Miles into the Country; the other mouth lies a little to the Northward, and is called Princapulca; it joins Walpa Sexa about 15 Miles up. These branches, before as well as after their junction, enjoy a very fruitful soil, with great plenty of Mahogany and other hard timber, as well as game and wild fowl, in common with the Rivers already mentioned. 10 Leagues North of this lies the Wawa River; this is a fine large River running into the Country above 100 Miles; the Mahogany on the banks is the largest on the whole coast, and as the largeness of the timber always indicates the goodness of the land, consequently enjoys a very rich and fruitful soil, with advantages in common with the other Rivers in point of Game, &c.

About 20 Miles North of this lies Huson River, of little note further than as it leads into the Lagoon and from thence into a kind of drowned meadow with a small gully running through it, navigable only for Pitpans (in the dry season), but forms a considerable piece of Water in the wet season, navigable for Petiagres or Crafts for about 20 Miles along the Coast as far as Sandy Bay. This is the principal residence of the Mosquito King and his Chiefs; the Town is pleasantly situated on the banks of a Lagoon which has a communication with the Sea by means of land cut by some of the former Kings at present about 150 feet in width; it abounds in fish; the banks are low and fit only for Rice and pasture. The Vicinity of this place to the Mosquito quays where Turtle can be easily procured, with its exemption from troublesome insects, seemed to have chiefly recommended it as the Capital of the Mosquito King.

Seven Leagues North of Sandy Bay lies the Wana Sound; this is a large and extensive Sound with from 9 to 10 feet Water on its entrance; the Circumjacent

Country is covered with large Forests of Pine yielding plenty of pasture from this to Walton. The Country residence of the Mosquito King lies through a delightful Forest, interspersed with a variety of gentle risings and fine springs of Water, at about 20 Miles distance. 15 Miles beyond this lies Sackelong on the banks of Wanks or Cape Gracias a Dios River, about 100 Miles from its mouth. At this place any quantity of lumber might be cut, and some Saw Mills are erecting with a view of procuring lumber for the Jamaica Market.

Wanks or Cape Gracias a Dios River lies 5 Leagues, North of Wana Sound at its falling into the North Sea 15 degrees North Latitude and 10 Longitude; it forms at this place a tolerable good Harbour, where Vessels may ride in safety against all but a Southerly Wind in 3½ fathom Water; a few Leagues off the Harbour lie a great number of dangerous Reefs and Shoals on all quarters. This River is famous for the many expeditions of the Buccaneers, it leading by several branches into the heart of the Spanish Province; for about 60 Miles up the banks of this River are low and apt to be overflowed, but where cultivated produce Rice in abundance. The Cocoa Tree also thrives here much, being found to delight in a low, rich soil; further up the banks of this River are covered with immense Forests of Pine, as well with plenty of Mahogany, Cedar, and other hard timber. Jamaica might be amply supplied with all kinds of Lumber from this River were a bounty granted on it to induce Men of property to turn their thoughts that way, or could a Scheme of that kind be carried on by a company of Merchants; crossing the River from the Harbour lies a Savanah abounding with Excellent pasture and capable of maintaining vast herds of Cattle. The Beef I have killed here would not disgrace Leaden Hall market. To the South of the Harbour lies Morgan Town Savanah, in all respects equal to the other as to the extent and goodness of its pasture; this Savanah takes its name from a Mosquito Chief, who assumed his from the famous Buccaneer of

that name, a Custom still very common amongst these people. A profitable Oil fishery might also be carried on from Cape Gracias a Dios to the adjacent Keys, which, in the proper season of the year, are covered with Seals, and the Sea abounds with fish called Nourse, which produces much Oil. West from Wanks or Cape Gracias a Dios River, about 10 Leagues, lies Croutch River, of inconsiderable note. 10 Leagues further West lies Caratake Lagoon; this extension tract of Coast is one continued Savanah, abounding with the finest pasture, and if stocked with Black Cattle would amply supply Jamaica with Salt beef. I have heard it frequently observed that beef could not be properly cured in this warm Climate, but I can assure your Excellency from my own Experience; I have had it salted with the bone in and kept it in perfect order for six months, and were the bone cut out it would keep as long as might be Necessary; any quantity of Mules might also be bred in these extensive pastures, as Horses may be bought here for 30 shillings per head.

Carataska Lagoon extends about 13 Leagues West. The south side of this Lagoon, to the extent of near 40 miles, is one vast Forest, abounding with yellow Pine, proper for scantling boards, &c., and from which Tar of an Excellent quality is made, also with white Pine, which make good Masts for Vessels. The Lagoon abounds in Manatee Fish and Oysters, and towards the mouth, which is about half a mile broad, any quantity of fish may be caught in Seines, salted, and barrelled up for market; the ridge which divides this Lagoon from the Sea is from half a mile to a mile in breadth, proper for pasturage; here the Mosquito Men plant Corn, Yams, and Cassada. From Carataska to Potook River is 16 Leagues, navigable for small Craft, through sundry Creeks and Lagoons, within 3 Miles of the Latter. Between these places the small River of Tabuncana falls into the Sea. Potook River has its source in the Spanish Country, and is a large, fine River, with a very considerable length of course; towards the head

are situated several considerable Spanish Towns; the banks of this River towards its mouth are low and proper for Rice; further up the land rises and abounds with large Mahogany and Cedar; at the Mouth of the River lies Potook Savanah, of considerable extent and affording very good pasture for Black Cattle; it has of late begun to be stocked with Cattle for the Black River Market, and what Cattle have been put on it have throve Exceedingly. From Potook to Brewer's Lagoon is 10 Leagues; the entrance into this Lagoon is about half a mile broad, but Shoal, and only fit for Petiagus or Crafts to enter. It is in circumference about 40 miles, and abounds with the greatest plenty of Fish and Oysters; the banks Westward are low; to the Eastward by Forests of Pine intermixed with pastures of vast extent. In this Lagoon lie two Islands, one pretty large and high, about half a mile over, with fresh water on it and a pretty good soil; the other small and close by it; two rivers fall into it, namely, Thomas's, &c.; the banks of these Rivers enjoy a good soil, and are covered with Mahogany and other timber.

Five miles West of this lies Plantain River, a small River with very fertile banks. I have known Plantain suckers to flourish here for near thirty years on the same stock with little or no care. The lands near the mouth of this River and for a few miles up would answer extremely well for Rice. It takes its source from lofty mountains at some distance aback, where live a tribe of Poyer Indians, consisting of between 40 and 50 persons, tributary to the Mosquito General Tempest. From this to Black River the distance is about 14 miles along the side of a pretty large Lagoon, well stocked with Manatee, and divided from the Sea partly by a Savanah and a narrow ridge of poor land; there are several small Islands in this Lagoon, and three small Rivers empty themselves into it, namely, Powna, Yara, and Bonnak; the land rises gradually aback to lofty mountains overtopped by others still higher, and these by others till the view is lost in the Clouds.

Black River, the principal British Settlement on this Coast, is situated on the banks of this River, about a mile to the Westward of its mouth ; for some miles up the banks of the River are low and proper for pasture or Rice. Beyond this the Country becomes mountainous and hilly ; at some Miles distance aback from the banks of the River, which are in general pretty high and only apt to be overflowed in high floods, the Country rises gradually from the River into gentle risings, and little hills Overtopped by large hills, and there again by a variety of mountains overtopping one another till the view is lost, from whence issue numberless small streams, which after a small course fall into the River. There are at present three Sugar Estates settled on the banks of this River. The Sugars made on them are of the best quality, in short, they want nothing but a sufficient number of hands to raise them to whatever pitch might be desired ; also several Penns of Black Cattle and provision grounds. About 30 miles above its mouth the River divides into two branches ; one branch runs to the Southward and takes the name of Poloyah, the other runs Westward and is called Seco River. Poloyah River about 40 Miles above the branch becomes very shoal and rapid, and is no longer navigable for Pitpans. A few Miles from this Capt. Philip, commander of a small tribe of Poyer Indians, resides, and at this place those who trade up the River in Cattle and Mules load their Mules with Merchandise, and, after a troublesome Journey of about 4 days through narrow defiles between the Mountains, come into a large Savanah, where Capt. Hosea, commander of a Numerous tribe of Poyers called upper Poyers, resides. This Indian has had sufficient address to keep on good terms both with Spaniards and Mosquito Men ; he is very serviceable to our traders, concealing them from the Spanish Officers and often trading with them himself for great numbers of Cattle and Mules, being himself possessed of near a thousand head of Black Cattle. The other branch, called Seco River, runs quite to the

Spanish Savanahs, but had several troublesome falls in its course, over which Pitpans are dragged in the dry seasons, but in the wet seasons they cannot be attempted. Above the falls of this River, I am credibly informed, Grapes are found in plenty and perfection. The lands along the banks of both these Rivers or branches are very fertile, but rather mountainous, with number of Creeks and Rivulets, on which Saw Mills might be erected, the country abounding in timber.

On the bank of Poloyah River, about 3 miles aback, is one of the finest and hottest baths in the World; the water of it is the lightest on the Coast. I have boiled a piece of beef in it in an hour by my Watch. About 5 miles to the Westward of Black River lies Mustee Creek, a small Village situated on a fine broad Lagoon, navigable for large Petiaugers or Crafts. For about 4 Miles into the Country above the Village, on the banks of this Lagoon, are several small Plantations and provision grounds, the lands being good. This Lagoon empties itself about a mile to the Westward of the Village, by the mouth of Cape Cameron River, which disimbogues itself into the Sea. This River, on its falling into the Sea by Cape Cameron, is a broad, deep River, but has a very shoal and bad bar, only practicable for Petiaugers or Crafts in dry season; the River bars up and Crafts are hove over into the River or out into the Sea. It has no great length, of course, but is navigable for large Petiaugers or Crafts for 7 or 8 miles up. The lands on the banks of this River are reckoned extremely fertile. Two Sugar Estates are already settled on them; both of which have turned out much beyond Expectation, and make goods of the very best quality.

Near the River's mouth is a small Village, consisting of a few straggling houses along the Western bank inhabited by a few Musties and Whites. About 3 Miles to the Westward of Cape River mouth lies Prenau, an Excellent Road for Vessels, with very smooth water during the season for Sea breezes. In very wet

seasons Prenau River falls here into the Sea, but Excepting at such times is always barred up, with a broad, Sandy Bay between it and the Sea. This River has a very short Course, rather resembling a Lagoon, having no apparent source, and Communicating with Cape River by a pretty deep, Narrow Creek (navigable for Petiaugers), called Prenau Creek.

The lands along the banks of this River are in general tolerable good, and rise into pretty high ridges at a little distance aback. About three miles to the Westward of Prenau River's mouth, Zacharalayah River falls into the Sea. This, like Cape Cameron River, for about four Miles above its mouth is a large, broad, deep River, generally barred up in dry seasons. Further up the River is narrow, and inclines in its course towards the head of Cape River. It has also during the wet seasons a communication with Prenau River. The lands up this River are equal to any in this Country. The River abounds with Fish, and the Country aback of its banks excellently stocked with Game; and during the Turtling season great quantities of Turtle are caught off its mouth.

There was once a Settlement a little way up this River, but was deserted through the danger the Settlers were in from a great number of runaway Slaves who then infested this part of the Country. No person has ever attempted a Settlement since.

From this to the Little Rocks is distant 4 Leagues West, with a very fine Country agreeably interspersed with hills and dales, well watered with abundance of fine, clear Streams and small Rivulets. There is but one Settlement in this tract,—a small Sugar Estate, settled some Years ago, about half way between Zacharalayah mouth and the Little Rocks. 12 leagues West of this lies the Great Rocks, an assemblage of large Rocks, extending a considerable way into the Sea. This tract of Coast is agreeably diversified with hills; many small Rivers and a great many streams of very clear fine water fall everywhere into the Sea.

Part of this tract enjoys a very fruitful soil, from which great quantities of Mahogany has been cut, and much remains yet to cut. The remainder towards the Great Rocks is covered with Extensive Forests of Pine. Between this and Cape Honduras, or the point of Castile, the River Roman falls into the Sea by several mouths. This is a large, rapid River, with a long course into the Spanish Country; several small Spanish towns are situated on its banks, with vast Savanahs abounding in Cattle and Mules. Up this River great quantities of Sarsaparilla has been dug by our Negroes, as well as bought from the Spaniards.

Truxillo Bay, partly formed by Cape Honduras, or the point of Castile; this is a large, deep bay. Vessels may lie in safety off the Ruins of the old Town with any Winds but a West or North West, which throws in a great Sea. 3 Leagues North of the old town in the same bay lies Porto Nuevo, a spacious harbour, with very deep water, close to the sandy beach, where Vessels of the greatest burthen and size may lie secure against all Winds whatever, and Close by Porto Nuevo harbour lies a very Extensive Lagoon abounding in the highest degree with Manatee and Fish.

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